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SQUARE ENIX.

咲
Saki
4
小林立
SC

各校、ほぼ横並びの状況で迎えた
県予選決勝前将戦。
ネット麻雀界最強と謳われた
和の前に立ちふさがるは、
県内屈指のデジタル派・龍門渕透華
大注目の同点打ち筋対決を
制するのは、果たして――!!

咲4 -Saki-

Ever since, he has come to detest Tacos...
During his childhood, his parents fought, then divorced over how bad Tacos tasted...
Just because the one Cup Noodle you tried was bad doesn't mean that all Ramen is bad!
It's the same with people, or nations!
The tacos still have a card left to play!!
くわっ

Tutorial and Glossary for Japanese Mahjong

To help you follow Saki's mahjong, we have put together this page to explain how Japanese mahjong works and as a handy reference.

Basic Rules

In Japanese mahjong, there are 4 players. Each player keeps a hand of 13 tiles. When a player has their turn, that player draws a new tile. If those 14 tiles complete all the conditions for victory, that player wins the round. If not, that player has to discard a tile. Any of the other three players then has the opportunity to call "ron" and take that discarded tile if it would complete one of their own conditions for victory.

Tiles

Tiles are either of a particular suit, or are honor tiles. There are three suits: man, sou, and pin. Tiles in each suit are numbered from 1 to 9. Honor tiles consist of the 3 dragon tiles and the 4 wind tiles. Numbers 1 and 9 in each suit are called terminal tiles. Together honor tiles and terminal tiles are called end tiles.

3 Suits

Honor Tiles

How to Win

To win a round, a player must have a complete hand and at least 1 yaku. There are three types of complete hands:

1. A hand of 1 toitsu and 4 chi or kan or pon.
2. A hand of 7 toitsu.
3. Kokushi musou

Mahjong Glossary

General:

Dead wall - Several tiles that are set aside at the start of the round and not normally drawn from.
Dealer round - An extra round that does not count toward the total number of rounds in the game, and which takes place after a dealer wins a round.
Dora - A designated tile which counts as 1 han
Double East - When the Dealer in the East position acquires the East tile, because the Round wind and the Seat wind coincide, it becomes a double yaku
Fu - A scoring unit that is less than han and more than basic points. Also refers to any rule used to calculate fu.
Han-chan - A game consisting of 8 rounds (barring extra dealer rounds) where each player deals 2 rounds
Horse - An optional rule where extra points are given to the winners of the round, usually the first and second place.
Iishanten - A state in which you are one tile away from Tenpai.
Jigoku Tanki / Hell wait - A situation in which effectively, there is only a single tile with which you can complete a pair
Kutan - Making an open Tanyao
Menzen - Fully closed hand, never having called "ron" and revealed any of one's tiles
Reverse dora - An extra bonus tile that is flipped over when a player who declared "riichi" wins the round.
Ron - To pick up a discard. "Ron" can be called when another player discards the tile a player needs to win. That tile is then used to complete a chi, kan, or pon, which is then set aside. The closed portion of the player's hand becomes smaller (It's not menzen anymore.) In addition, points are transferred from the player who discarded to the player who called "ron."
Ryankan - A type of wait where the tiles form patterns like 1-man, 3-man, 5-man or 4-pin, 6-pin, 8-pin, etc
Ryanshanten - A state in which one's hand is two tiles away from Tenpai
Tenpai - The state of needing only 1 more tile to complete a hand. Tenpai is necessary to call "ruchi," so it would typically be spoken in that context. "[Some yaku] tenpai" refers to when only 1 more tile is required to obtain that yaku.
Tobi - A rule in which the game ends as soon as any player has 0 or less points.
Tsumo - "Tsumo" is called when a player draws the tile they need to win, but is not sufficient to win without additional yaku. "Menzen chin tsumohou," a yaku, is frequently declared as "tsumo"
Tsumikomi - A frowned-upon strategy where a player gathers advantageous tiles into their wall before the round begins, and therefore gets the tiles they want more quickly
Wait - The state of needing one more tile to win after declaring "ruchi." There are different types of waits, depending on how many different tiles could complete the hand and how each affects the hand's value
Wall - The undrawn tiles. Each player typically draws only from a specific part of the wall referred to as that player's wall, unless forced to draw from another player's wall because no more of theirs remains
Yaku - Special conditions necessary to win
Yaochuuhai - A general term for thirteen tiles in mahjong, which include honor tiles and end tiles

Score-related.

Baiman - An 8 to 10 han hand
Han - A score multiplier. The more han, the more your score increases exponentially. Some yaku are worth more han if they are menzen
Haneman - A 6 to 7 han hand.
Kazoe-yakuman - A 13 han or more hand. Scored the same as yakuman
Mangan - A 70 fu 3 han or more, 40 fu 4 han or more, or 5 han hand
Sanbaiman - An 11 to 12 han hand.
Yakuman - Hands that are so difficult to get that they are worth the maximum possible point value.

Tile melds:

Chi - 3 consecutive numbers, same suit Example. 2 pin, 3 pin, 4 pin
Kan - 4 of the same tile Example. haku haku, haku, haku. When a player completes a kan, they must draw an additional tile from the dead wall to maintain the ability to make 4 sets
Pon - 3 of the same tile. Example. 7 sou, 7 sou, 7 sou
Toitsu - 2 of the same tile. Example east wind, east wind.

Yaku / Yakuman

A full list of yaku can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_Mahjong_yaku#List_of_yaku

Chun itsu - All tiles are in the same suit and none are honor tiles
Daisangen - A yakuman formed when one readies three complete sets of the Haku, Hatsu, and Chun tiles.
Double riichi - A "riichi" that is declared on the player's first turn, before anyone has declared a chi or kan or pon.
Hon itsu - All tiles are in the same suit or are honor tiles
Ippatsu - Winning within one turn of declaring "riichi."
Itsuki Shuukan - A yaku in which one's runs are within the same suit
Kokushi musou - A hand that consists of all end tiles, and one more end tile. A yakuman hand
Menzen chin - References a closed hand in the context of same other yaku Example. Menzen chin hon itsu consists of a closed hand and hon itsu.
Menchin - A combination of Menzen, a hand where you do not call tiles, worth 1 yaku, and Chinusou (a.k.a Chin itsu), a hand where all your tiles are of the same suit, worth 6 yaku
Riichi - The player chooses to sacrifice 1000 points to declare they only need 1 tile to win ("tenpai") After "riichi" is declared, the player's hand cannot change until that tile is drawn ("tsumo") or called ("ron").
Rinshan kaihou - When a player declares a kan and therefore has to draw an extra tile, and that tile completes the player's hand
Sanankou - When you win with a hand formation of three unrevealed Pons, worth two yaku.
Sanshoku - Three sequences of the same numbers in all three suits. Example: 6 man, 7 man, 8 man, 6 sou, 7 sou, 8 sou, 6 pin, 7 pin, 8 pin.
Suuankou - A hand that consists of only pon and kan and 1 toitsu, where none of the pon or kan were completed with "ron." A yakuman hand
Tanpin - No end tiles, and must be a double-sided wait
Tanyao - A hand that uses no end tiles
Toitoi - When you win with a hand formation of four Pons (or Kans) and a pair, worth two yaku.

Null is proud to present you: Saki volume 4

Translation: Kosetsu
Proofread: MinoSpelgud, Jamie
Edit: Spl
QC: MattW
Terminology: Osamuko, Kosetsu

Release note: Please DO NOT upload our Saki releases to MangaFox, OneManga or any other online viewer.

咲
Saki
4
小林立

If I lose the match, I won't be able to grant her wish to see it again.
The landscape I walked through with Miyanaga-san

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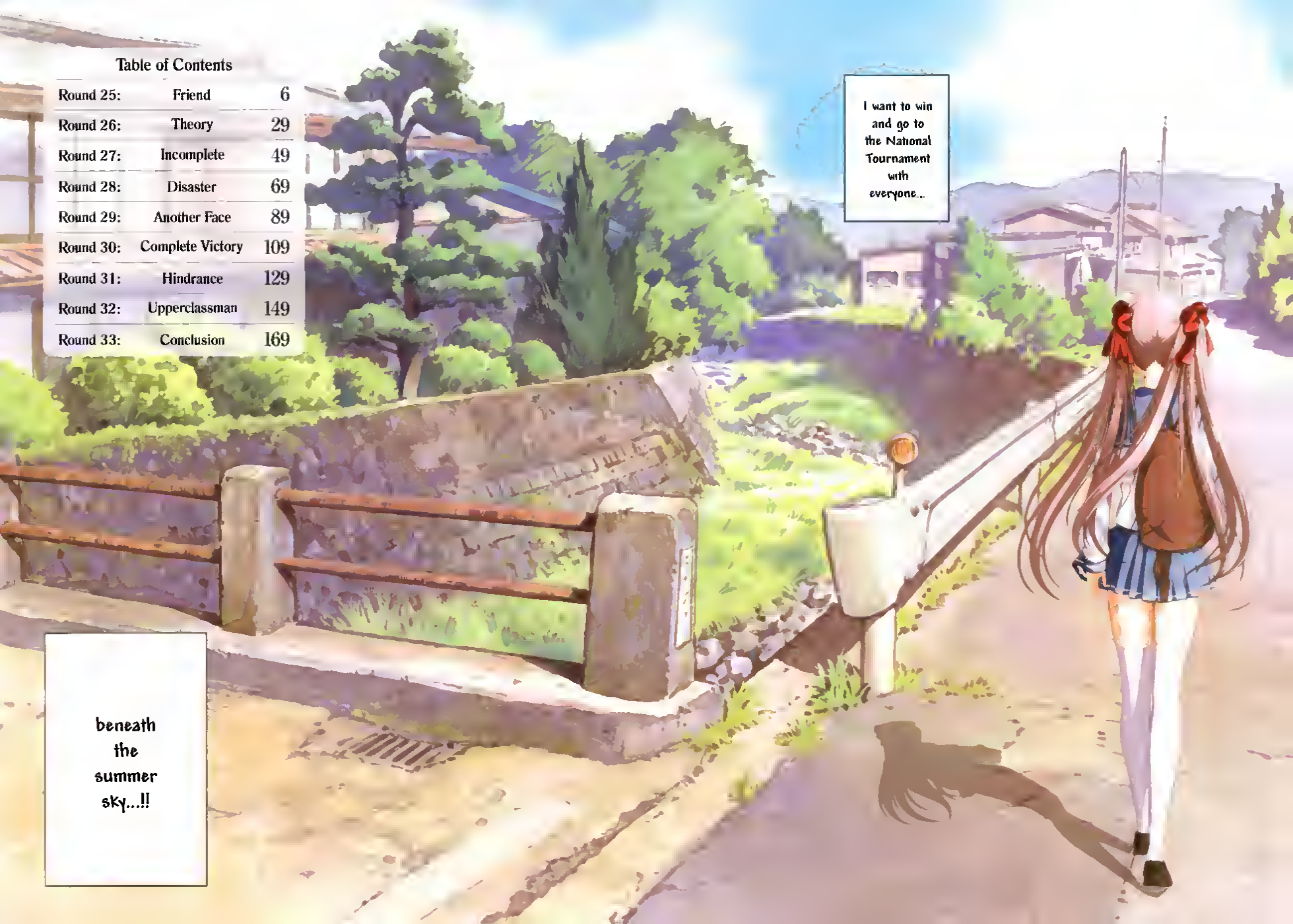
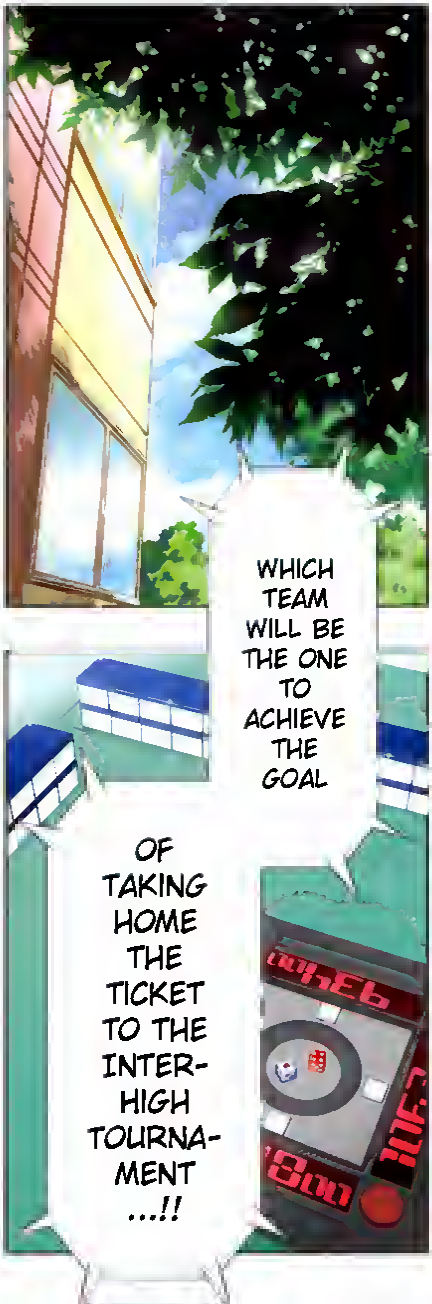


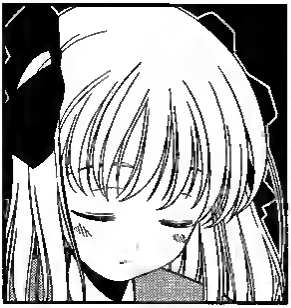
Round 25: Friend

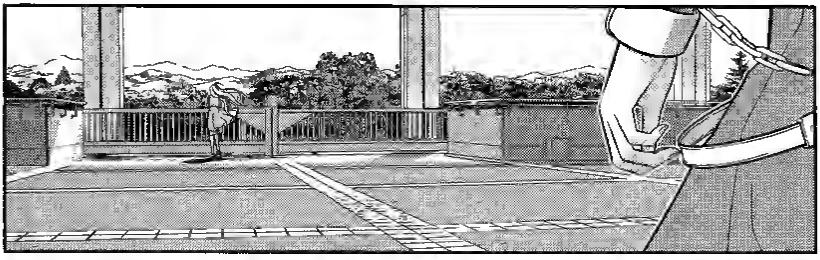

THE PRELIMI-NARY FINALS' VICE-CAPTAIN BATTLE ...!!
WHICH TEAM WILL BE THE ONE TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL
OF TAKING HOME THE TICKET TO THE INTER-HIGH TOURNA-MENT ...!!

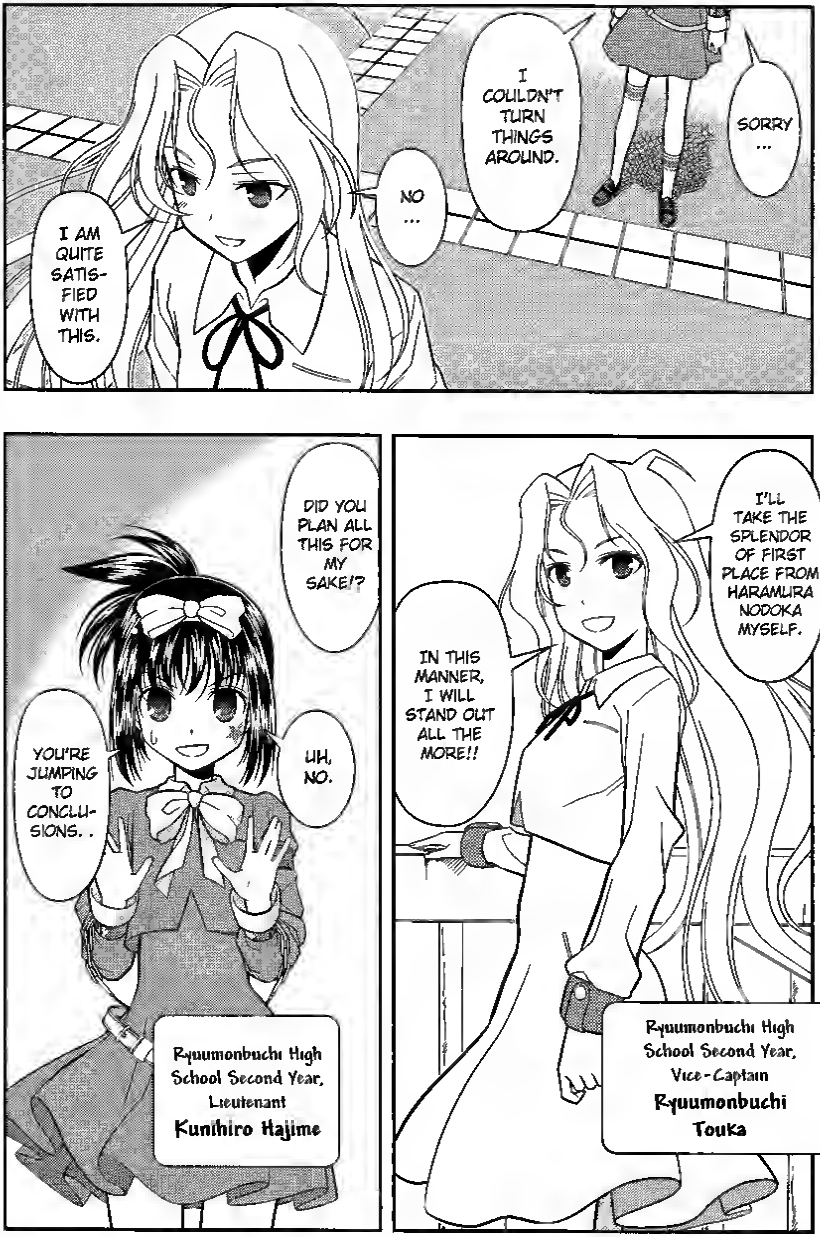
トアアアア
HARA-MURA NODOKA ...!!
IT'S HARA-MURA
HARA-MURA-SAN!
THE BATTLE OF THE FINALS HAS ARRIVED. WOULD YOU MIND SHARING A BIT OF YOUR EXCITEMENT WITH US?
... EXCITE-MENT...
NO COM-MENT ..
ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU ALWAYS SAY!?
Kiyosumi High School First Year, Vice-captain
Haramura Nodoka

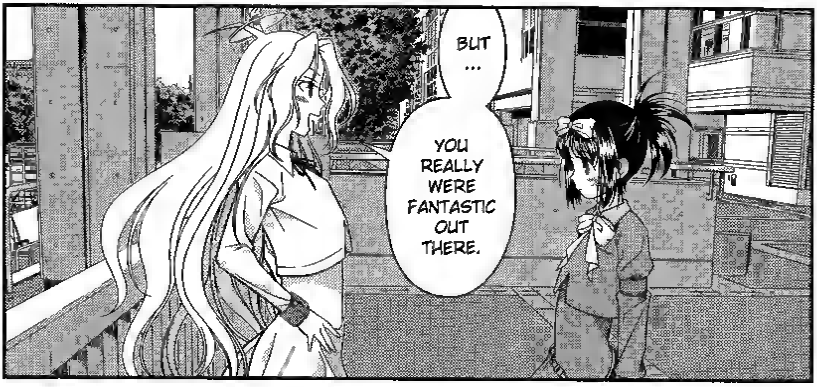
!
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK...
SO, YOU CAME.
YES.
DID YOU EAT THAT BANANA?
I'M TIRED FROM BEING SO TENSE ALL GAME.
I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU FRESHMEN, OKAY?
Kiyosumi High School Third Year, Lieutenant
Takei Hisa

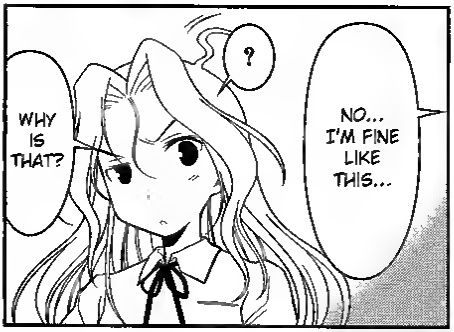
GOOD LUCK!
YES!

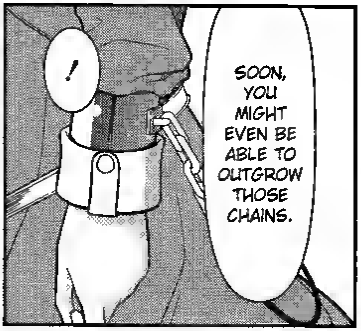


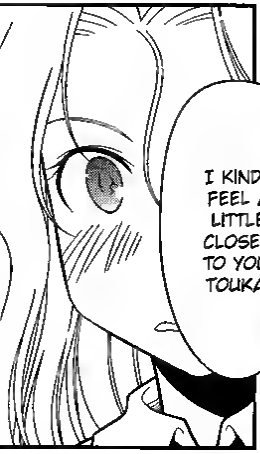



I AM QUITE SATIS-FIED WITH THIS.
NO ...
I COULDN'T TURN THINGS AROUND.
SORRY ...
I'LL TAKE THE SPLENDOR OF FIRST PLACE FROM HARAMURA NODOKA MYSELF.
IN THIS MANNER, I WILL STAND OUT ALL THE MORE!!
Ryuumonbuchi High School Second Year, Vice-Captain
Ryuumonbuchi Touka
DID YOU PLAN ALL THIS FOR MY SAKE!?
UH, NO.
YOU'RE JUMPING TO CONCLU-SIONS. .
Ryuumonbuchi High School Second Year, Lieutenant
Kunihiro Hajime


BUT ...
YOU REALLY WERE FANTASTIC OUT THERE.

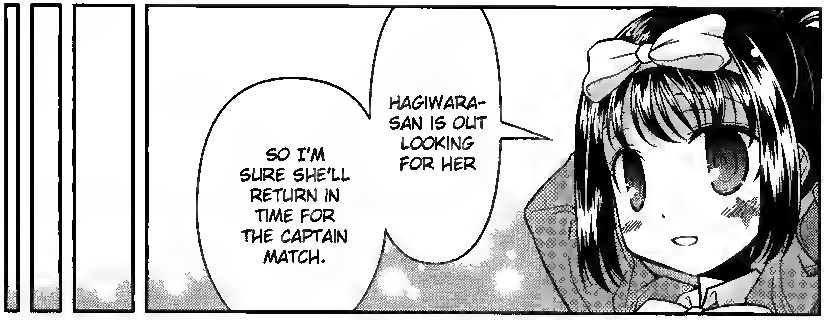

?
WHY IS THAT?
NO... I'M FINE LIKE THIS...


!
SOON, YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO OUTGROW THOSE CHAINS.


I KINDA FEEL A LITTLE CLOSER TO YOU, TOUKA.

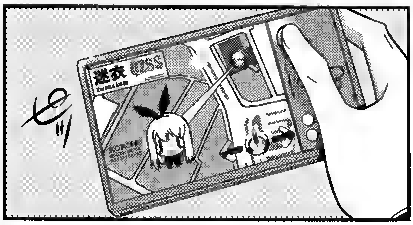
WHILE I HAVE THESE CHAINS ...

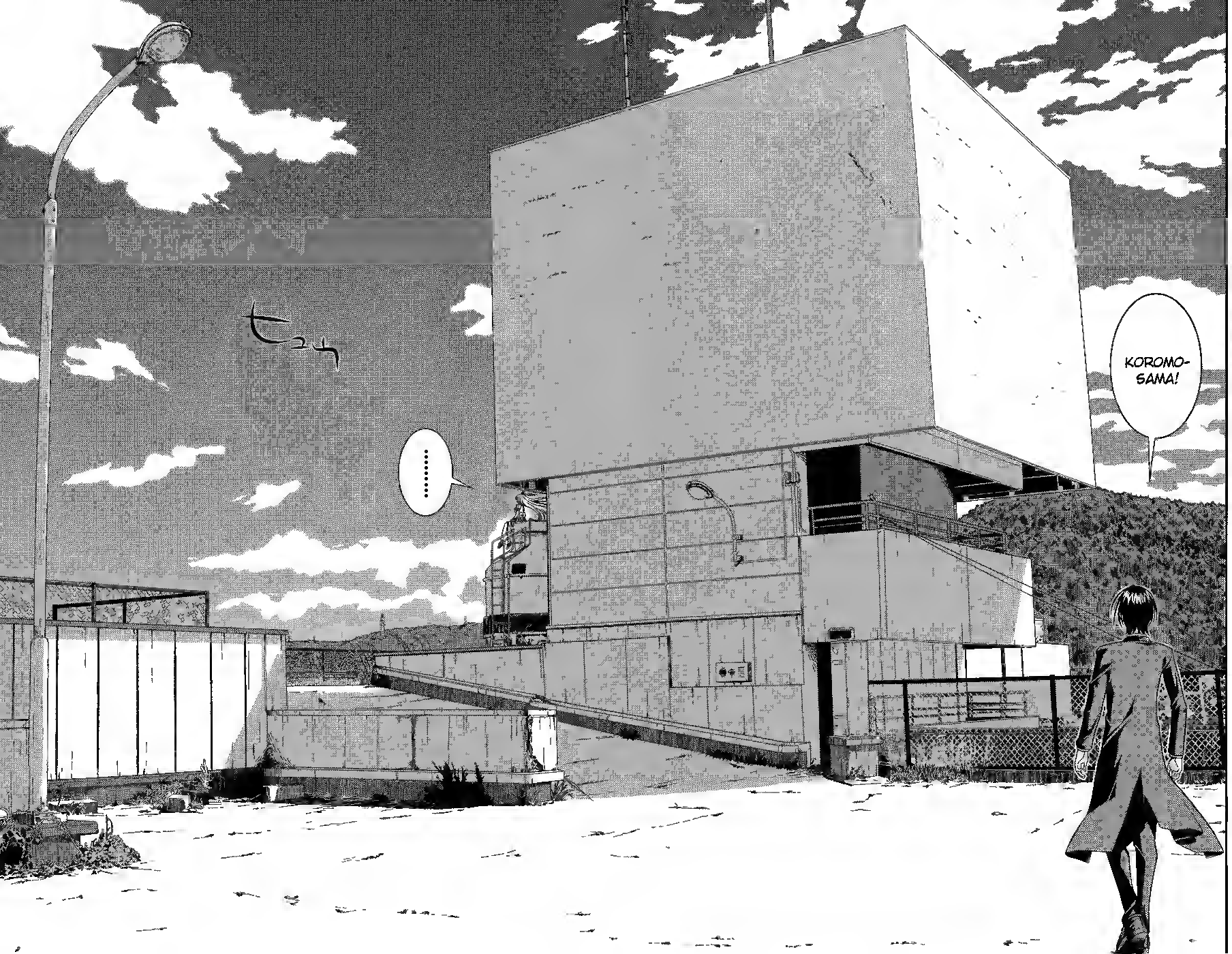
AT THOSE TIMES, IT FEELS LIKE TOUKA IS RIGHT BY MY SIDE...
BU... BUT,
WHEN YOU RETURN HOME EACH DAY, YOU REMOVE THEM, RIGHT?
NO.
AFTER ALL... IT'S BECAUSE I'M YOUR PERSONAL MAID...
EVEN THOUGH IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR MY MATCH, I WONDER JUST WHERE THAT GIRL HAS WANDERED OFF TO!!
WELL, I GUESS SOMETIMES I ALSO SERVE KOROMO.
UH... RIGHT, RIGHT, KOROMO !!


HAGIWARA-SAN IS OUT LOOKING FOR HER
SO I'M SURE SHE'LL RETURN IN TIME FOR THE CAPTAIN MATCH.

40

OVER THERE ...?



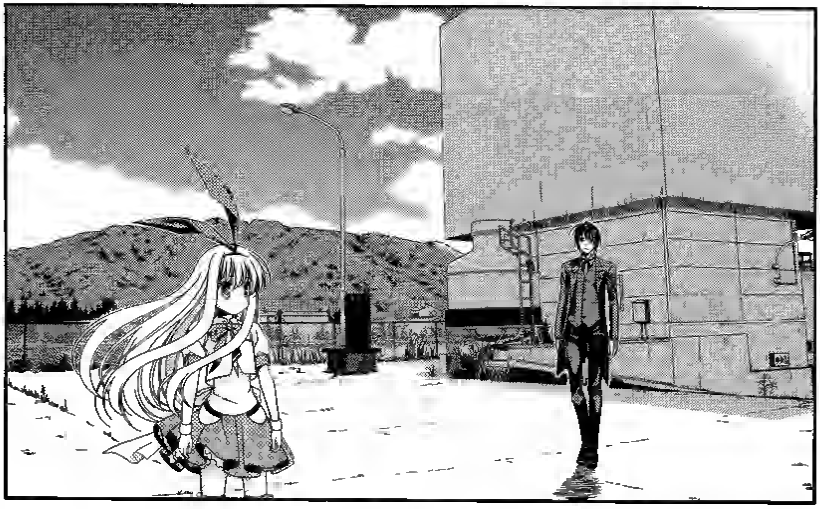

KOROMO-SAMA!
……

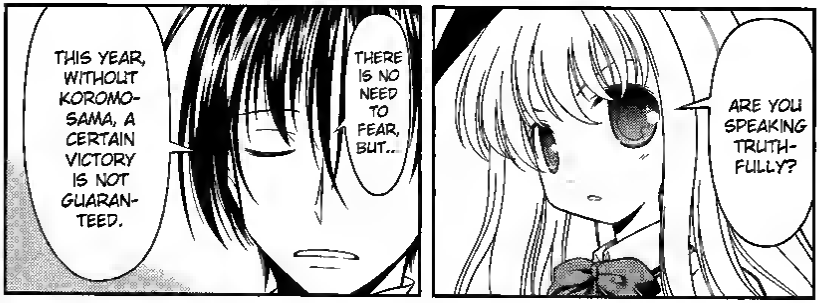
HAGI-YOSHI!
I'M STAYING HERE!
WHY DO YOU COME TO THESE TYPES OF PLACES?
Ryuumonbuchi High School Second Year, Captain
Amae Koromo

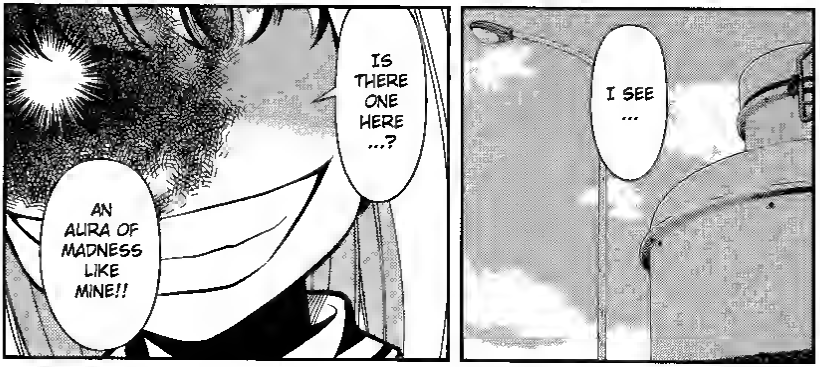
I DISLIKE MASS MEDIA AND NOISY, CROWDED PLACES.
IF BOTH HARAMURA AND I HAD BEEN THERE AT THE SAME TIME, THE MASS MEDIA WOULD'VE OVER-TAKEN US, SO I ESCAPED.

I REMEMBER, WHEN FATHER AND MOTHER DIED FROM YELLOW DUST*...
THE DESPICABLE BEHAVIOR OF THE HUMANS THAT SWARMED AROUND ME.
COME TO THINK OF IT, KOROMO-SAMA REFUSES ALL INTERVIEWS AND PHOTO-GRAPHS.
...NO...
AT BEST, THE CAPTAIN BATTLE JUST STAVES OFF MY BOREDOM FOR A WHILE.
THAT APPEARS NOT TO BE THE CASE THIS YEAR.

*SEASONAL DUST CLOUDS THAT DESTROY FARMLANDS POISON WATER MAINS, AND CAUSE RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS




THIS YEAR, WITHOUT KOROMO-SAMA, A CERTAIN VICTORY IS NOT GUARAN-TEED.
THERE IS NO NEED TO FEAR, BUT..
ARE YOU SPEAKING TRUTH-FULLY?

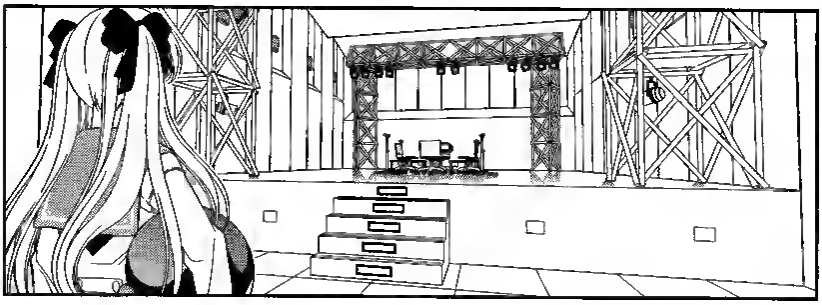

AN AURA OF MADNESS LIKE MINE!!
IS THERE ONE HERE ...?
I SEE ...

OKAY !!
I'M RETURN-ING NOW, HAGI-YOSHI!!
MA'AM.
AND I'LL PLAY WITH THEM UNTIL THEY BREAK!!

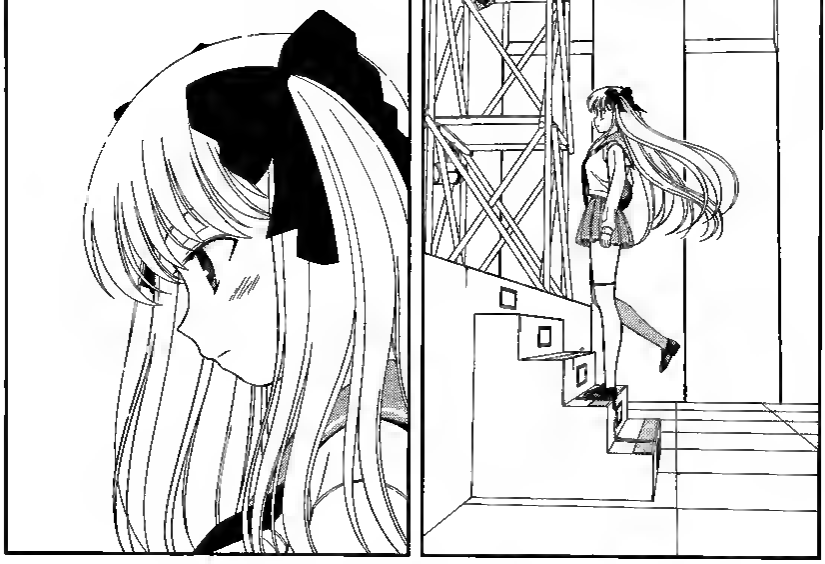
Kiyosumi High School First Year, Captain Miyanaga Saki
WAS I COLD WHEN I SLEPT...?

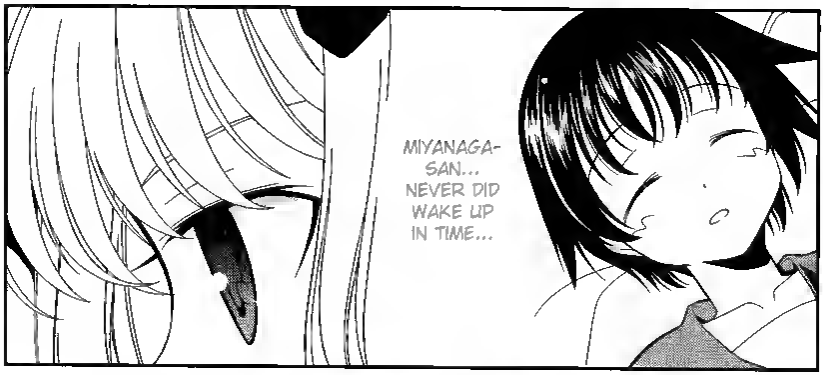
AFTER ALL, WHEN I WOKE UP, I WAS ALL ALONE..

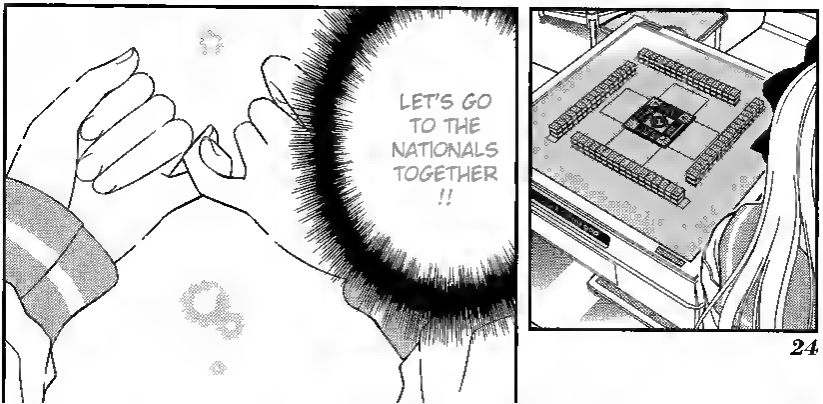
THE VICE-CAPTAIN BATTLE ...!!



I PLAYED IN THIS ROOM IN THE INDIVIDUAL BATTLES LAST YEAR..



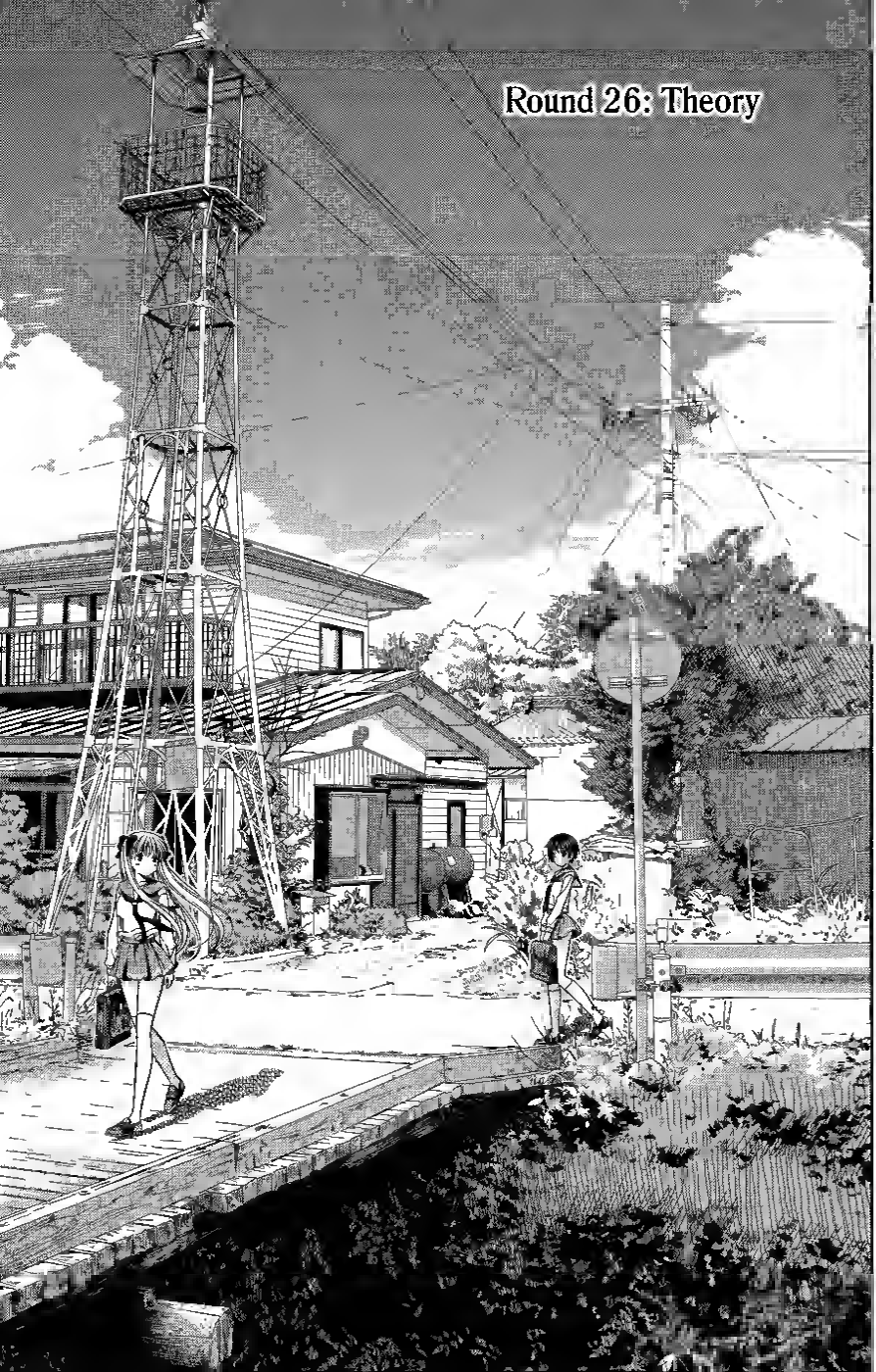

MIYANAGA-SAN... NEVER DID WAKE UP IN TIME...


LET'S GO TO THE NATIONALS TOGETHER !!

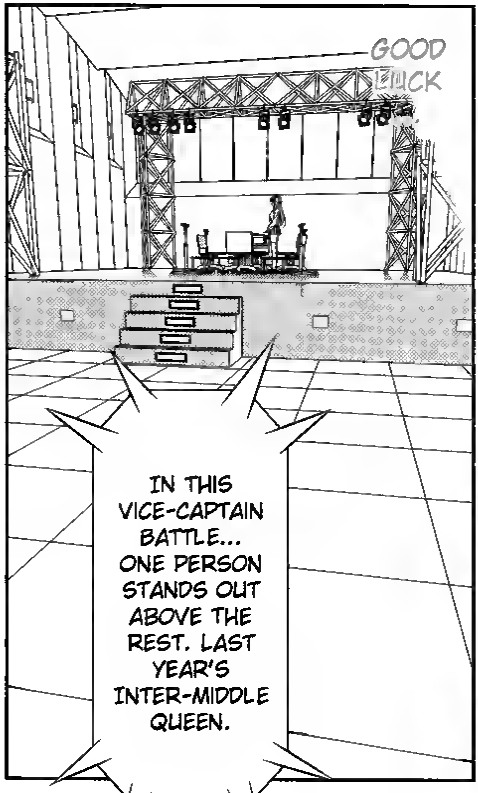
EVEN THOUGH WE MADE THAT PROMISE, TO NOT EVEN COME AND WATCH MY MATCH...
HARA-MURA-SAN!!

GOOD LUCK!!
MIYA-NAGA-SAN ...!?
EXCITE-MENT...
THAT'S RIGHT...

I WILL DEFINITELY WIN...!!


Round 26: Theory

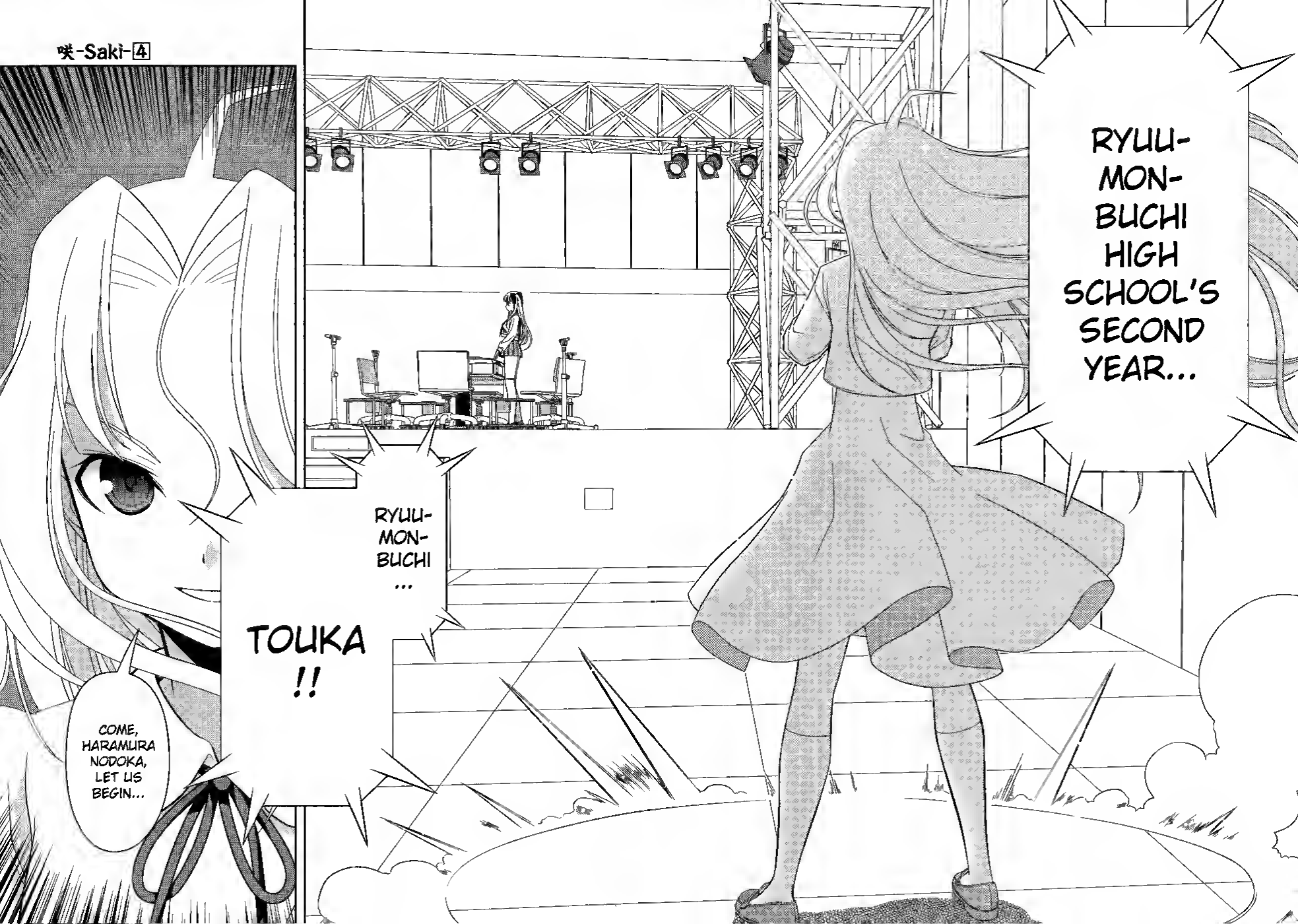
THREE MORE MINUTES BEFORE THE VICE-CAPTAIN BATTLE BEGINS!
WE WOULD LIKE ALL NON-PLAYERS TO LEAVE THE ROOM
AH ...
OF COURSE.


GOOD LUCK
IN THIS VICE-CAPTAIN BATTLE... ONE PERSON STANDS OUT ABOVE THE REST. LAST YEAR'S INTER-MIDDLE QUEEN.

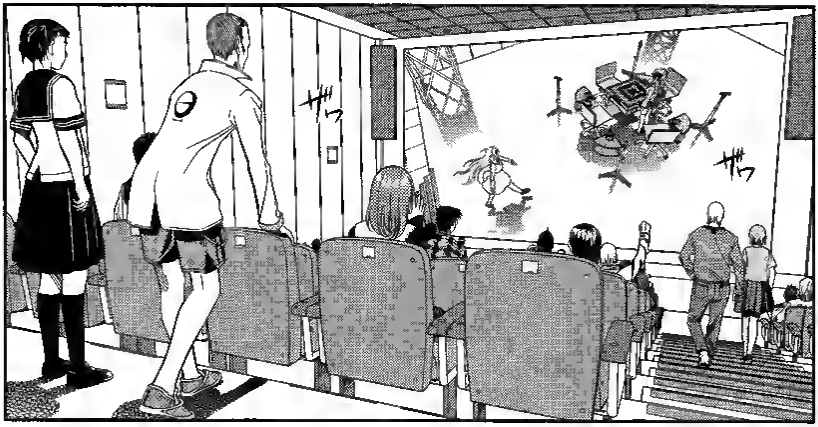
.....

NOW... PERHAPS THE STRONGEST FIRST YEAR IN ALL OF JAPAN!!
KIYOSUMI HIGH SCHOOL'S FIRST YEAR, HARA-MURA NODOKA!!

AND THEN ...
SHE WHO MENACED LAST YEAR'S NATIONALS WITH A TERRI-FYING WIN PERCENTAGE, ONE OF THE FOREMOST DIGITAL PLAY-ERS IN HER DISTRICT...


RYUU-MON-BUCHI HIGH SCHOOL'S SECOND YEAR...
RYUU-MON-BUCHI ...
TOUKA !!
COME, HARAMURA NODOKA, LET US BEGIN...

OUR BATTLE TO DETERMINE WHO IS THE TRUE IDOL HERE...!!
……

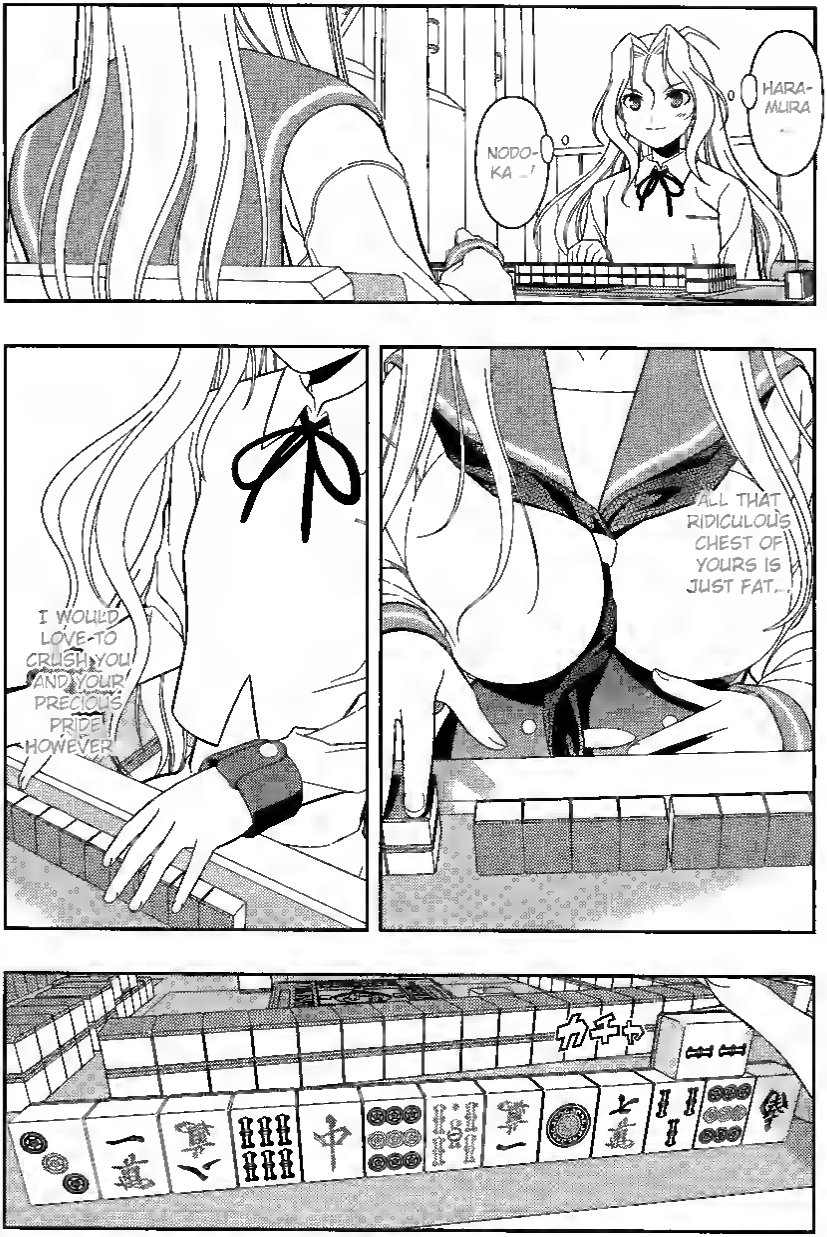


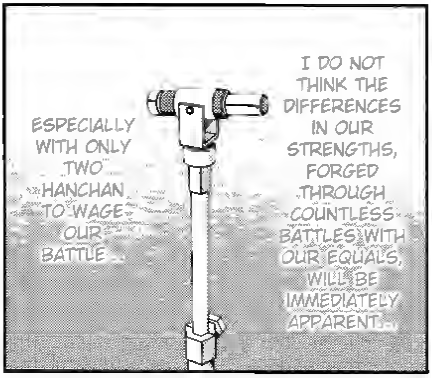
AS I THOUGHT, HARAMURA HAS NO CHANCE OF WINNING AGAINST RYUUMON-BUCHI TOUKA
JUST LIKE WE SAW IN LAST YEAR'S EASTERN TOKYO EXHIBITION MATCH.

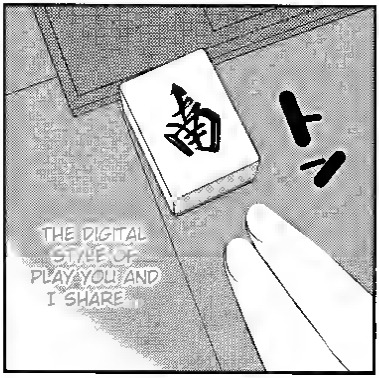
HEH.
AS IF HARAMURA COULD LOSE TO THE LIKES OF HER... SHE'S THE FIRST YEAR WHO BEAT ME, AFTER ALL.
YOU'RE GRATEFUL TO HARA-MURA FOR HANDING YOU DEFEAT ...?

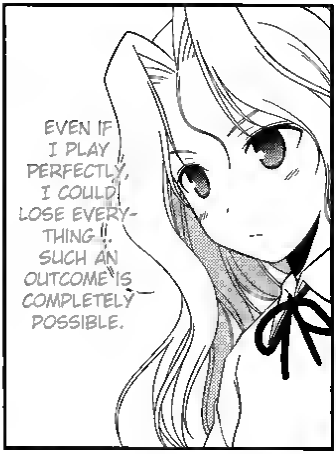
I'M BACK ...
WELCOME AND G'MORNING, SAKI-CHAN.
IT'S JUST START-ING.
ガチャ
HARA-MURA-SAN
ナナ!!

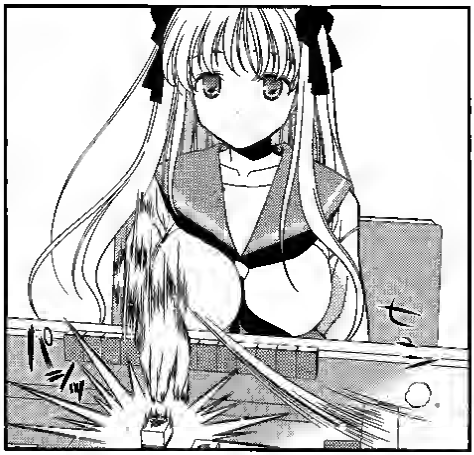
East Wind (Dealer) - Kazekoshi Girls' High School Second Year, Fukabori Sumiyo
South Wind - Kiyosumi High School First Year, Haramura Nodoka
North Wind - Ryuumonbuchi High School Second Year, Ryuumonbuchi Touka
West Wind - Tsuruga Academy First Year, Touyoko Momoko
VICE-CAPTAIN BATTLE, START ...!!


HARA-MURA...
NODO-KA...!
I WOULD LOVE TO CRUSH YOU AND YOUR PRECIOUS PRIDE, HOWEVER...
ALL THAT RIDICULOUS CHEST OF YOURS IS JUST FAT...
カチャ


ESPECIALLY WITH ONLY TWO HANCHAN TO WAGE OUR BATTLE...
I DO NOT THINK THE DIFFERENCES IN OUR STRENGTHS, FORGED THROUGH COUNTLESS BATTLES WITH OUR EQUALS, WILL BE IMMEDIATELY APPARENT...


THE DIGITAL STYLE OF PLAY YOU AND I SHARE...
トン


EVEN IF I PLAY PERFECTLY, I COULD LOSE EVERYTHING!! SUCH AN OUTCOME IS COMPLETELY POSSIBLE.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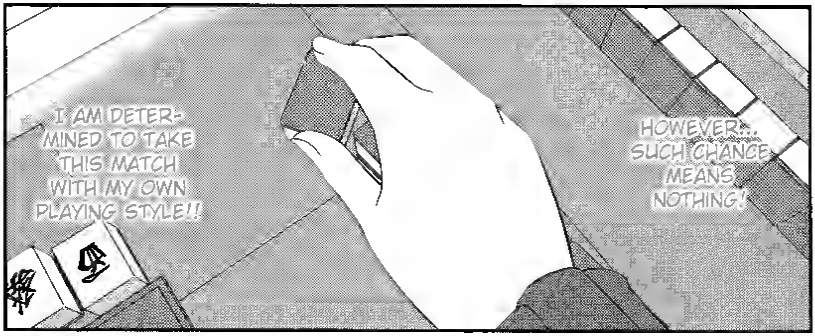
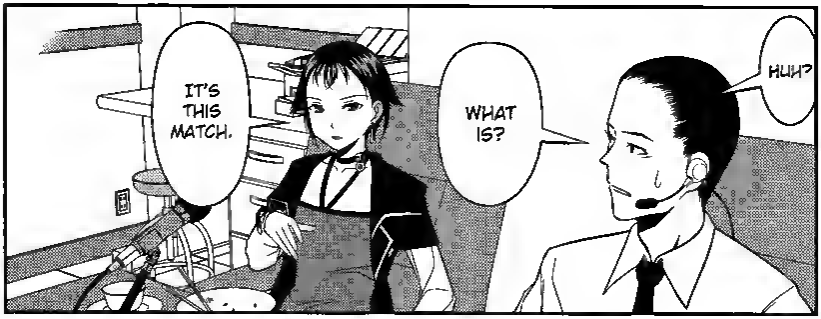
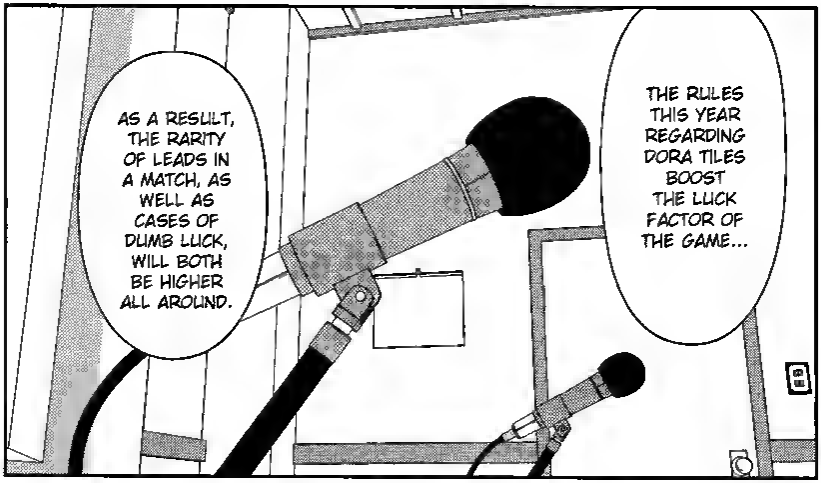
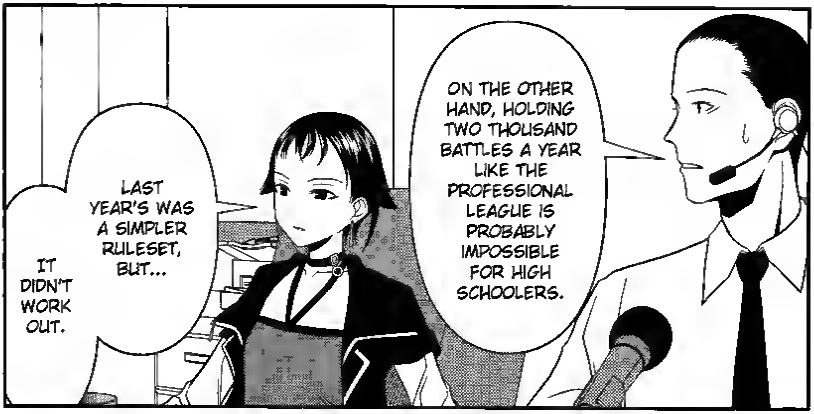
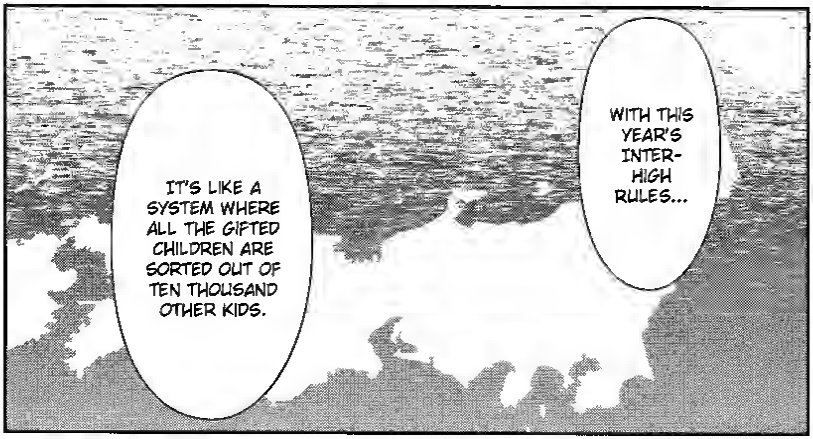

I AM DETERMINED TO TAKE THIS MATCH WITH MY OWN PLAYING STYLE!!
HOWEVER... SUCH CHANCE MEANS NOTHING!

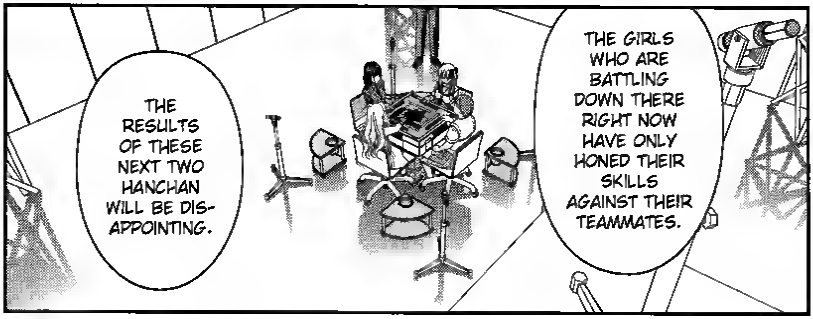
IT'S SUCH A WASTE.
Broadcast Room

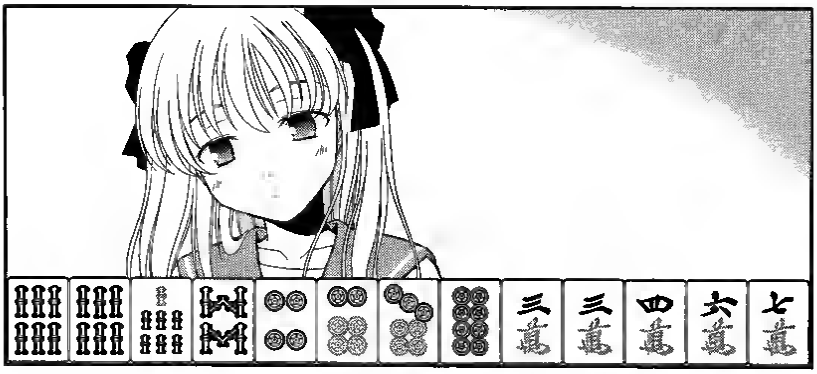

IT'S THIS MATCH.
WHAT IS?
HUH?

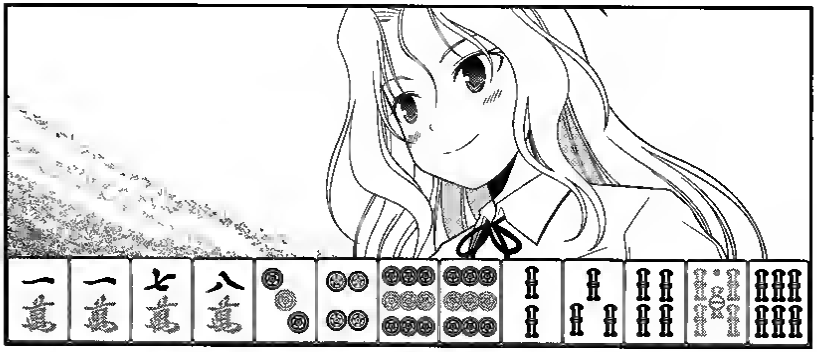

AS A RESULT, THE RARITY OF LEADS IN A MATCH, AS WELL AS CASES OF DUMB LUCK, WILL BOTH BE HIGHER ALL AROUND.
THE RULES THIS YEAR REGARDING DORA TILES BOOST THE LUCK FACTOR OF THE GAME...

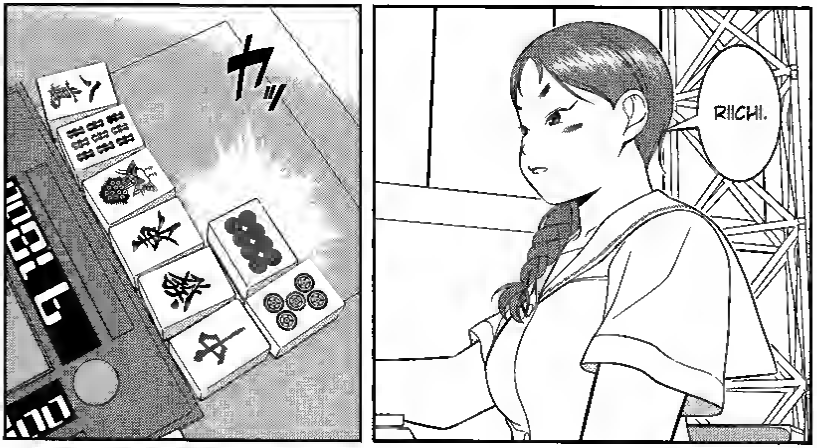

ON THE OTHER HAND, HOLDING TWO THOUSAND BATTLES A YEAR LIKE THE PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE IS PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS.
LAST YEAR'S WAS A SIMPLER RULESET, BUT...
IT DIDN'T WORK OUT.

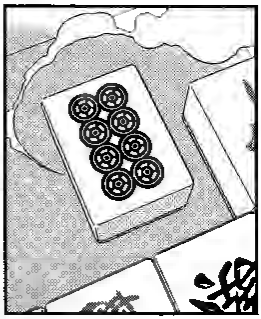

WITH THIS YEAR'S INTER-HIGH RULES...
IT'S LIKE A SYSTEM WHERE ALL THE GIFTED CHILDREN ARE SORTED OUT OF TEN THOUSAND OTHER KIDS.


THE GIRLS WHO ARE BATTLING DOWN THERE RIGHT NOW HAVE ONLY HONED THEIR SKILLS AGAINST THEIR TEAMMATES.
THE RESULTS OF THESE NEXT TWO HANCHAN WILL BE DIS-APPOINTING.



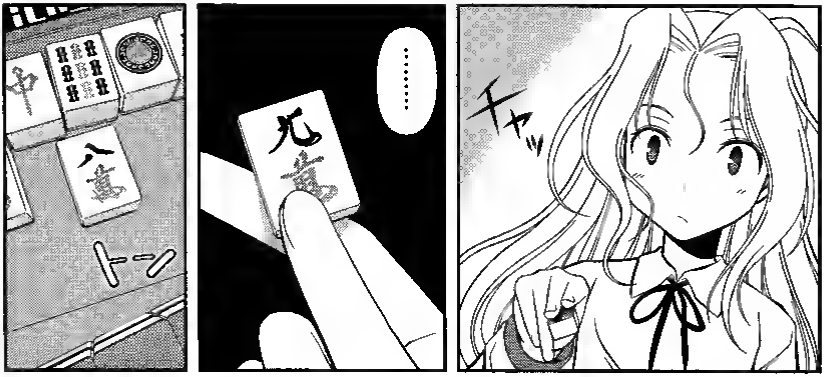



カッ
RIICHI.



FROM RYANSHAN*, AND FACING DOWN A DEALER'S RIICHI? I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.
WHAT A SCAREDY-CAT.
WITH SO FEW SAFE TILES, SHE OUGHT TO AIM FOR A WIN.

*RYANSHANTEN: A STATE IN WHICH ONE'S HAND IS TWO TILES AWAY FROM TENPAI.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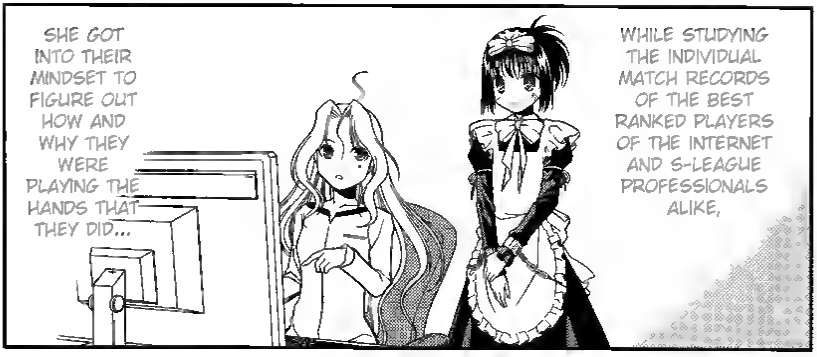
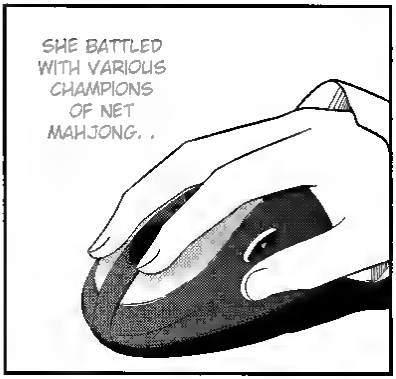
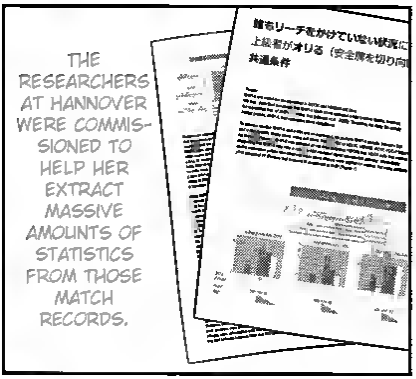
チャッ

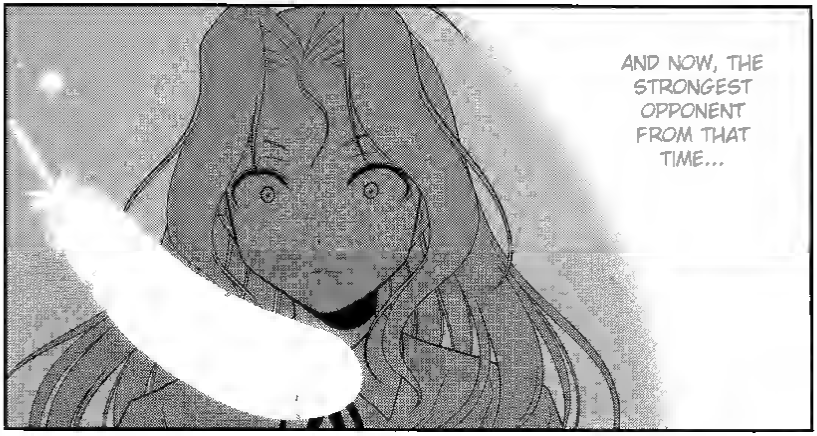
BACK-ING OFF?
I'D HAVE STUCK WITH MY HAND.
DON'T WORRY, TOUKA ISN'T GOING TO LOSE.

AFTER ALL
TOUKA IS WAY STRONGER THAN SHE WAS LAST YEAR!

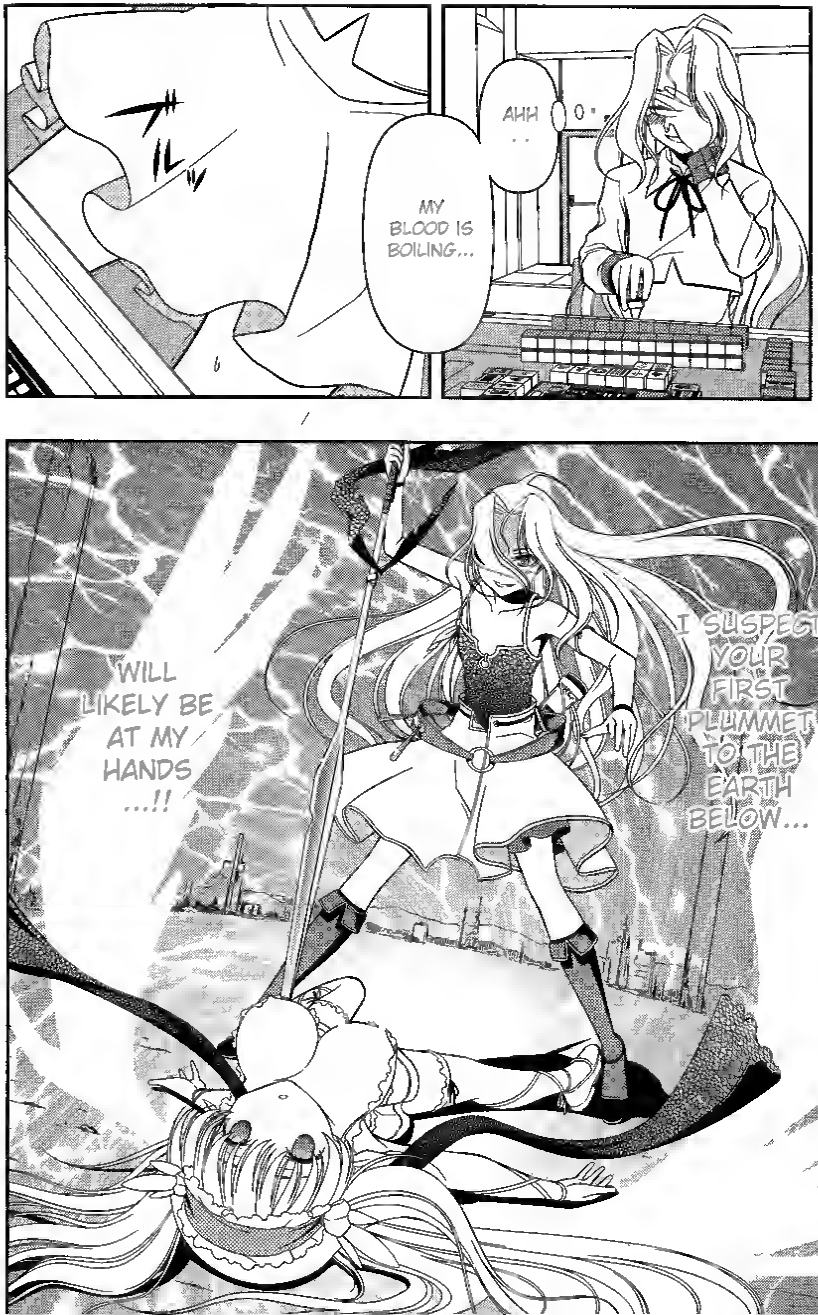

SHE GOT INTO THEIR MINDSET TO FIGURE OUT HOW AND WHY THEY WERE PLAYING THE HANDS THAT THEY DID...
WHILE STUDYING THE INDIVIDUAL MATCH RECORDS OF THE BEST RANKED PLAYERS OF THE INTERNET AND S-LEAGUE PROFESSIONALS ALIKE,


SHE BATTLED WITH VARIOUS CHAMPIONS OF NET MAHJONG. .

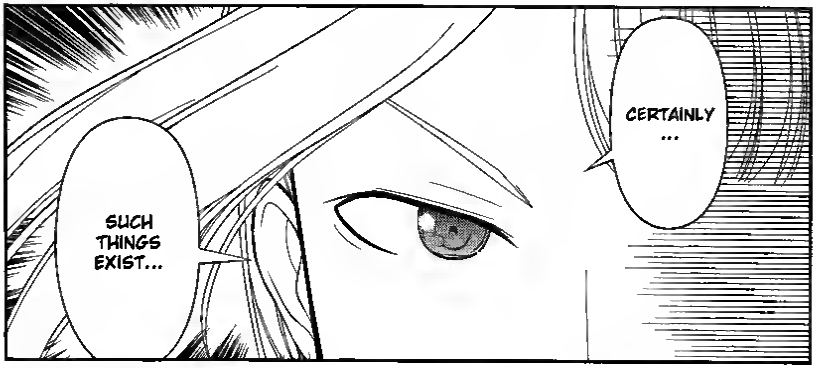

THE RESEARCHERS AT HANNOVER WERE COMMISSIONED TO HELP HER EXTRACT MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF STATISTICS FROM THOSE MATCH RECORDS.


AND NOW, THE STRONGEST OPPONENT FROM THAT TIME...

IS UNFURLING
HER WINGS
BEFORE
TOUKA'S VERY
EYES...!!


AHH
MY BLOOD IS BOILING...
I SUSPECT YOUR FIRST PLUMMET TO THE EARTH BELOW...
WILL LIKELY BE AT MY HANDS ...!!

Round 27: Incomplete

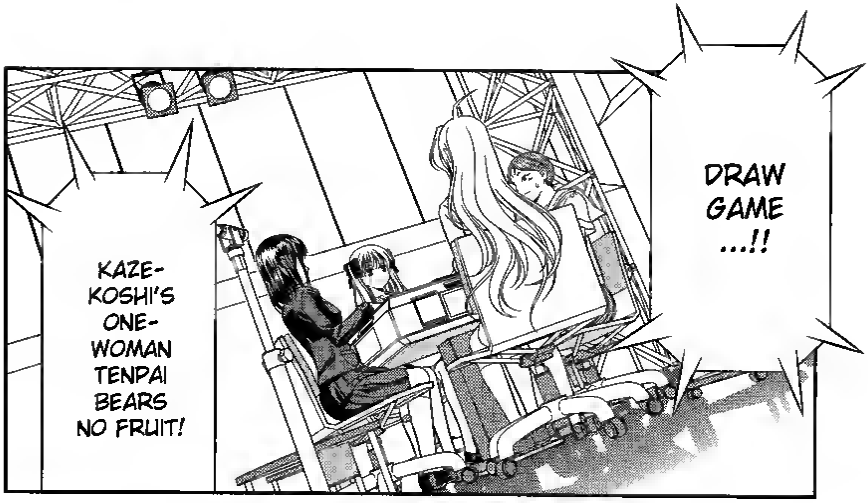

CERTAINLY ...
SUCH THINGS EXIST...

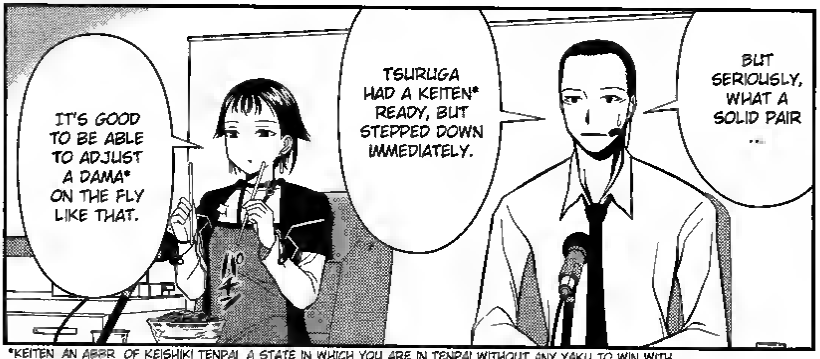
モグ
HER OFFO-NENPH. MURFF.
FINISH EATING FIRST.

パラ
TOUKA IS USUALLY A SCATTER-BRAINED LITTLE LADY, BUT...

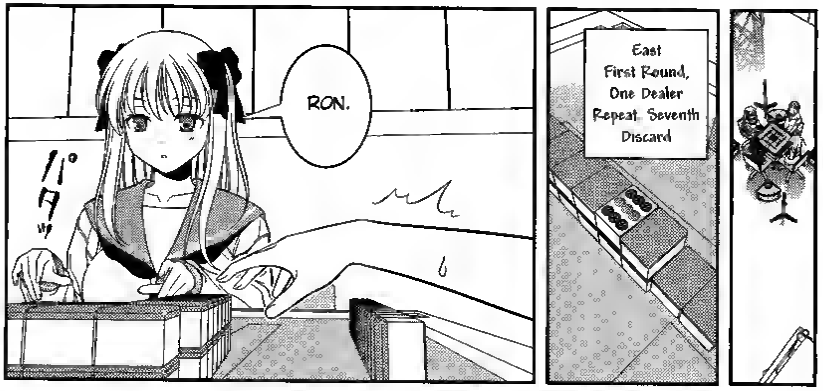
YES
TOUKA IS CERTAINLY FIRED UP TO DEFEAT SUCH A STRONG OPPONENT.
HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH SHE'S BURNING UP INSIDE, WE WILL ONLY SEE THE EXACT OPPOSITE: HER COLD POISE.

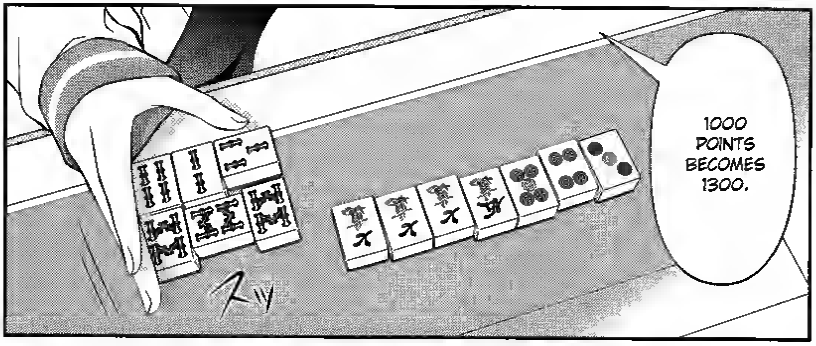
SHE DOES NOT SHOW ANYONE HER WEAKNESSES ...
SUCH IS HER COLD PERSONALITY ...
THERE'S NO WAY TOUKA COULD EVER GET A BOY-FRIEND!
UH ...
BUT WOULDN'T A GUY SOMEDAY BE ABLE TO THAW HER OUT?

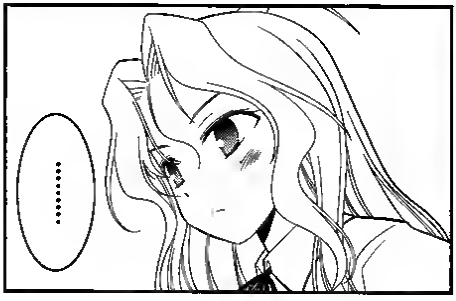



IT'S GOOD TO BE ABLE TO ADJUST A DAMA* ON THE FLY LIKE THAT.
TSURUGA HAD A KEITEN* READY, BUT STEPPED DOWN IMMEDIATELY.
BUT SERIOUSLY, WHAT A SOLID PAIR ...

*KEITEN. AN ABBR. OF KEISHIKI TENPAI. A STATE IN WHICH YOU ARE IN TENPAI WITHOUT ANY YAKU TO WIN WITH.
*DAMA. AN ABBR. OF DAMATEN, A CLOSED-HAND TENPAI WHEN ONE TRIES TO WIN WITHOUT CALLING RIICHI A.K.A. YAMITEN




1000 POINTS BECOMES 1300.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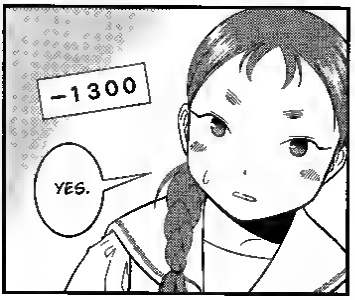
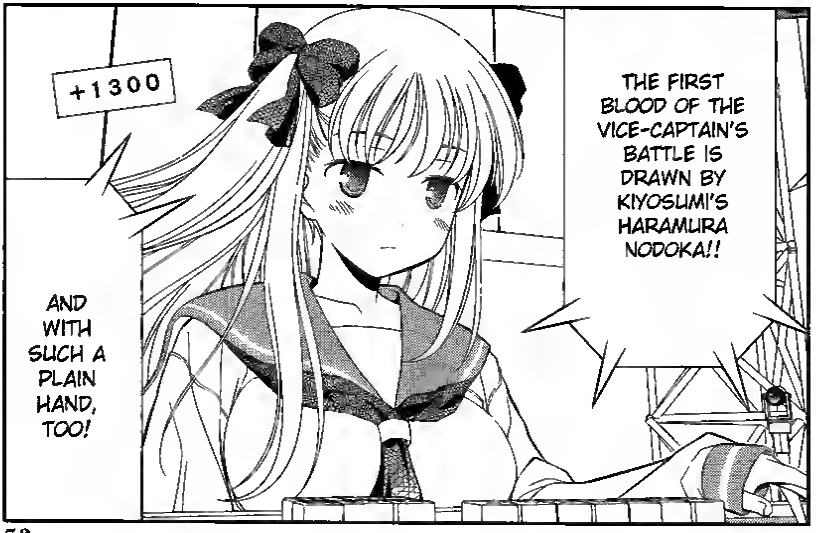
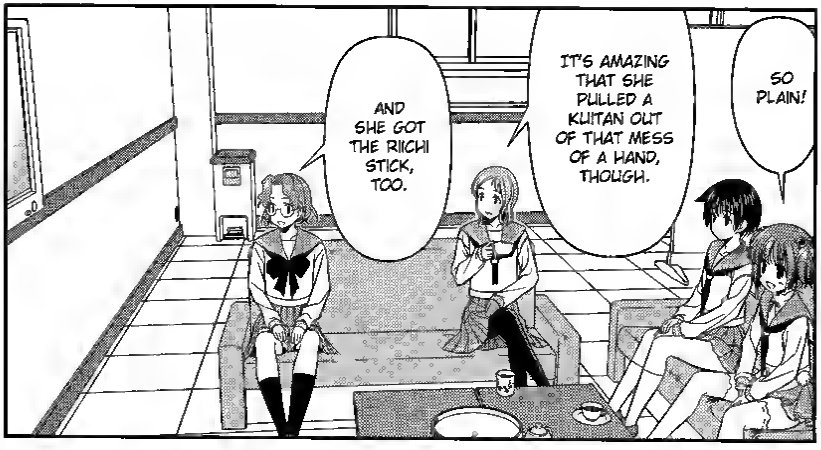
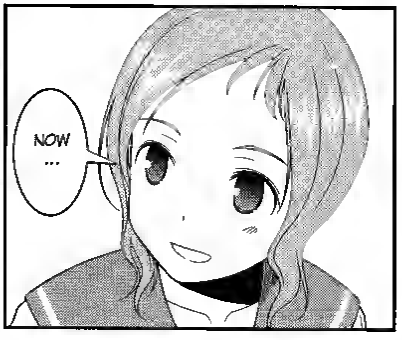
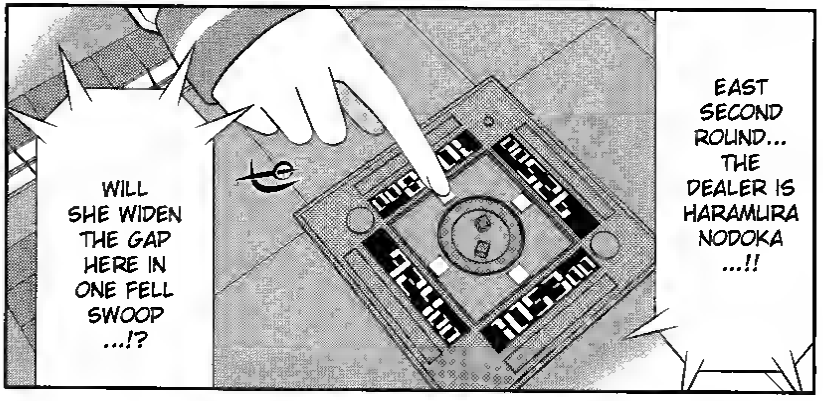

−1300
YES.


+1300
AND WITH SUCH A PLAIN HAND, TOO!
THE FIRST BLOOD OF THE VICE-CAPTAIN'S BATTLE IS DRAWN BY KIYOSUMI'S HARAMURA NODOKA!!

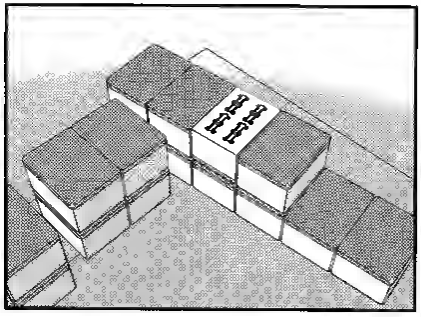

SO PLAIN!
IT'S AMAZING THAT SHE PULLED A KUITAN OUT OF THAT MESS OF A HAND, THOUGH.
AND SHE GOT THE RIICHI STICK, TOO.

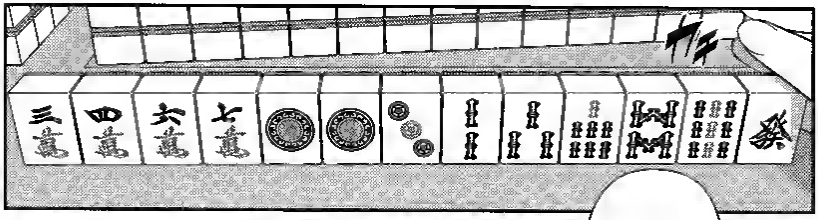
IT'S NODOKA'S TURN AS DEALER.

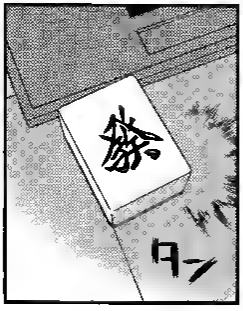

NOW ...

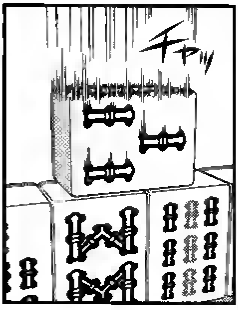

EAST SECOND ROUND... THE DEALER IS HARAMURA NODOKA ...!!
WILL SHE WIDEN THE GAP HERE IN ONE FELL SWOOP ...!?

WELL!





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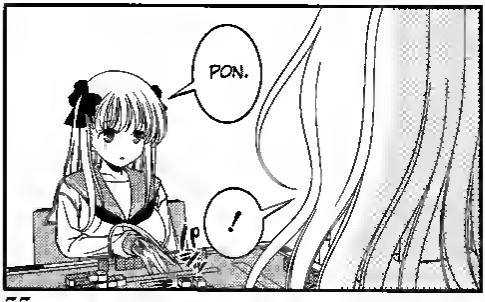
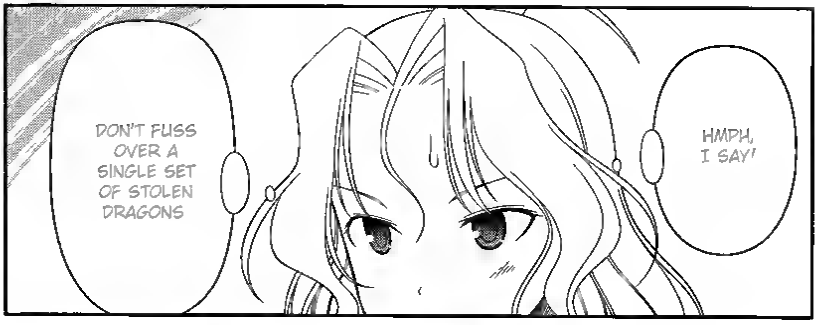
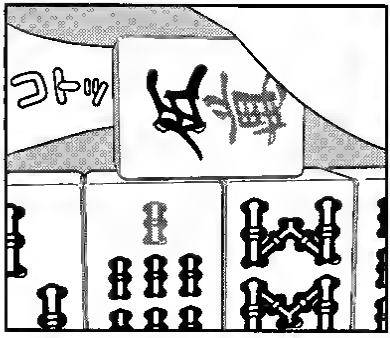
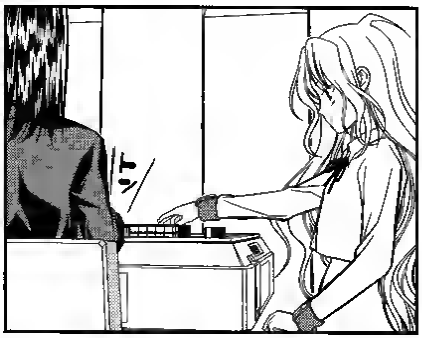
THE AMBIVALENCE OF THIS RYANSHANTEN SEEMS PROMISING.
I SUPPOSE IT WOULDN'T HURT TO CALL TILES IF IT SWEEPS OUT THE CURRENT DEALER


PON.
!

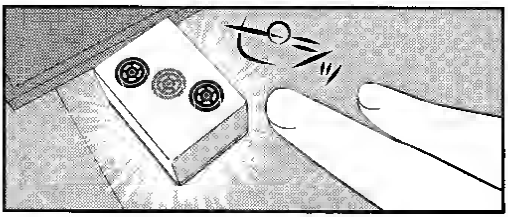
IT'S AN EXPRESS TICKET TO VICTORY ...!!

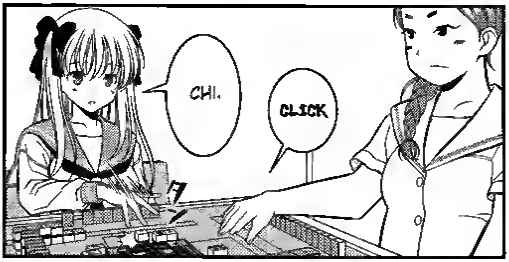

DON'T FUSS OVER A SINGLE SET OF STOLEN DRAGONS
HMPH, I SAY!



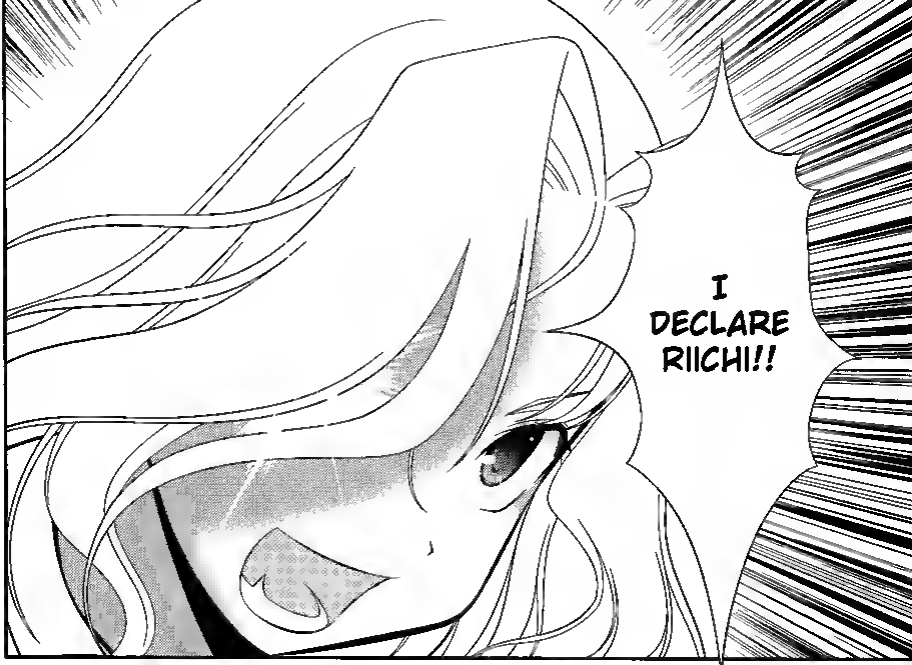


SHE'S STOLEN TWICE!

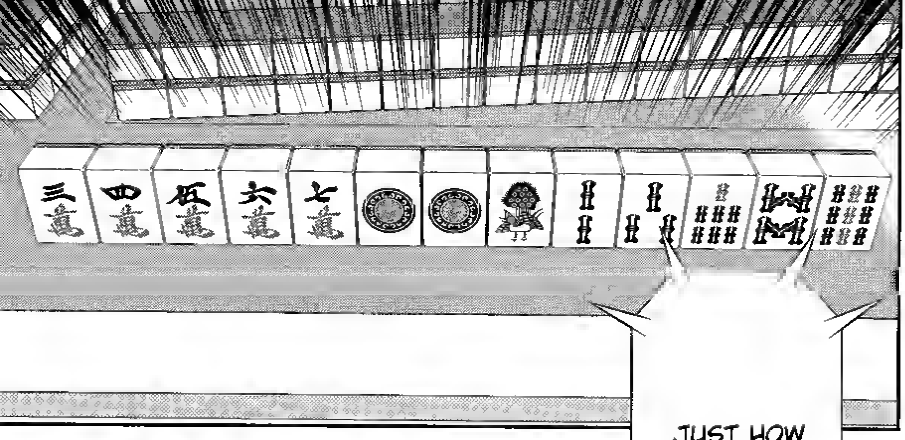


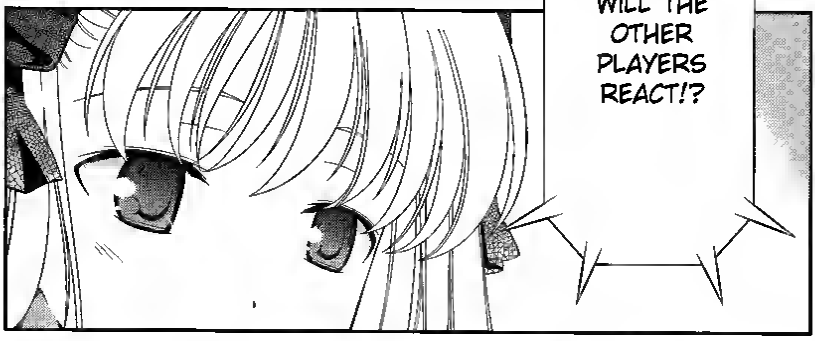

CHI.
CLICK

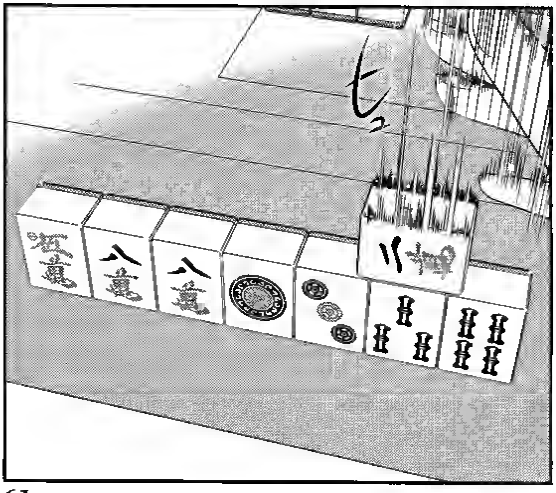
NEVER-THELESS, I AM ONLY ONE TILE AWAY FROM TENPAI
WITH AN OPPONENT WHO HAS STOLEN TWICE IN THE EARLY AND UNCERTAIN STAGES OF THE GAME, I STILL HAVE ROOM TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE!!
TIME TO STRIKE!!


I DECLARE RIICHI!!

RYUUMON-BUCHI TOUKA OF THE RYUUMON-BUCHI TEAM LAUNCHES A PREEMPTIVE RIICHI...!!




JUST HOW WILL THE OTHER PLAYERS REACT!?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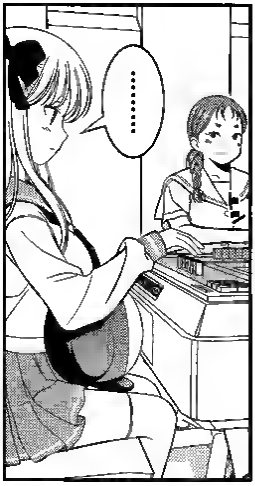
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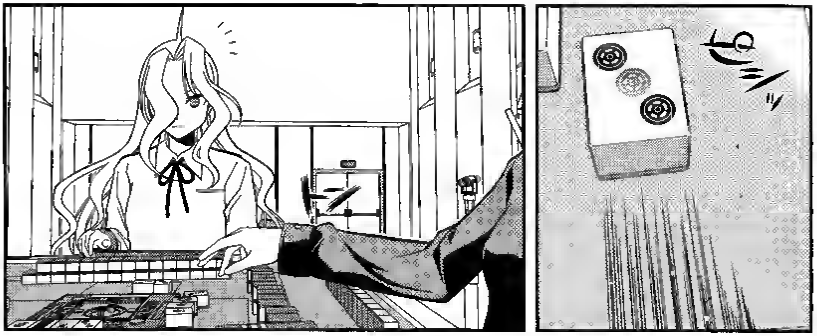
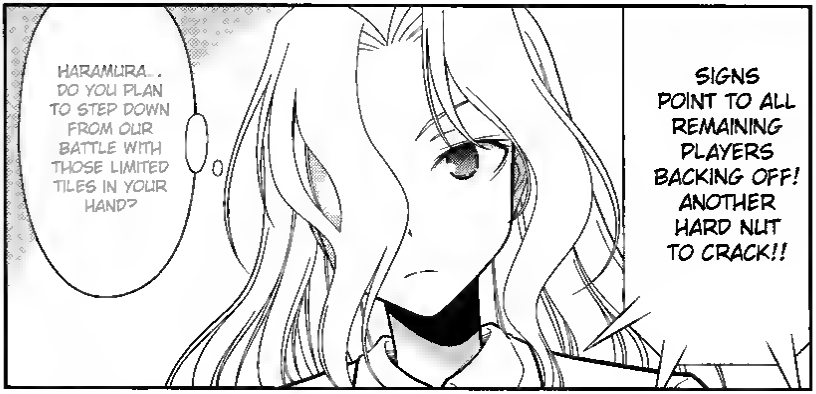
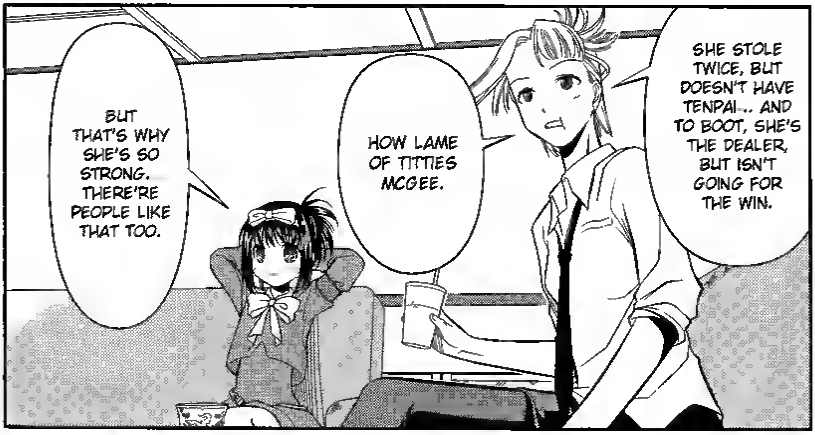
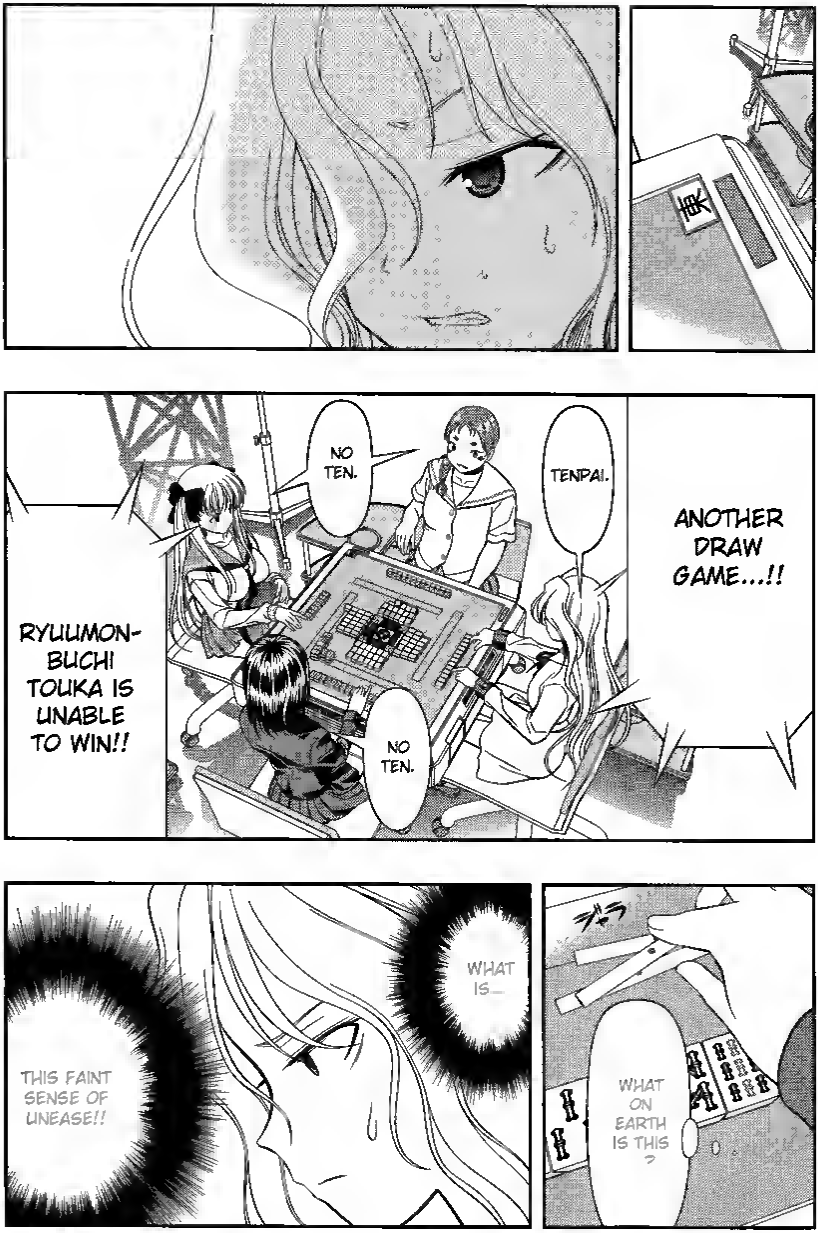
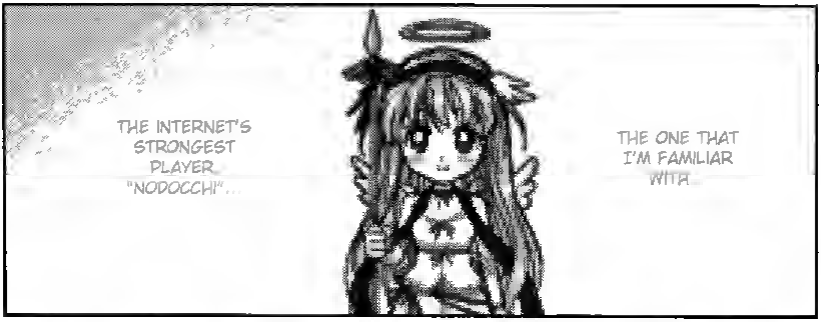
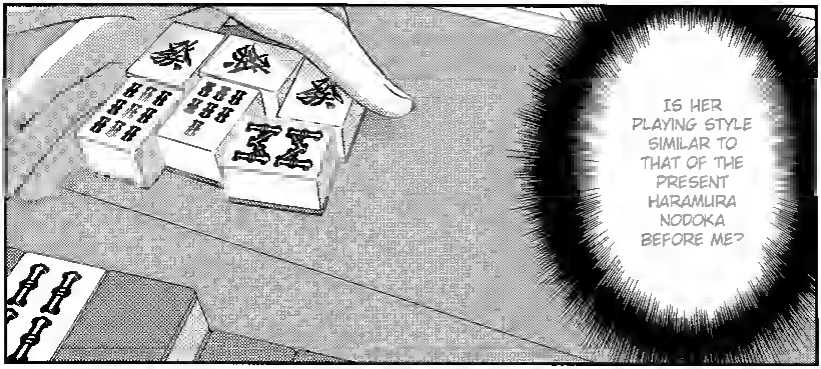



HARAMURA... DO YOU PLAN TO STEP DOWN FROM OUR BATTLE WITH THOSE LIMITED TILES IN YOUR HAND?
SIGNS POINT TO ALL REMAINING PLAYERS BACKING OFF! ANOTHER HARD NUT TO CRACK!!

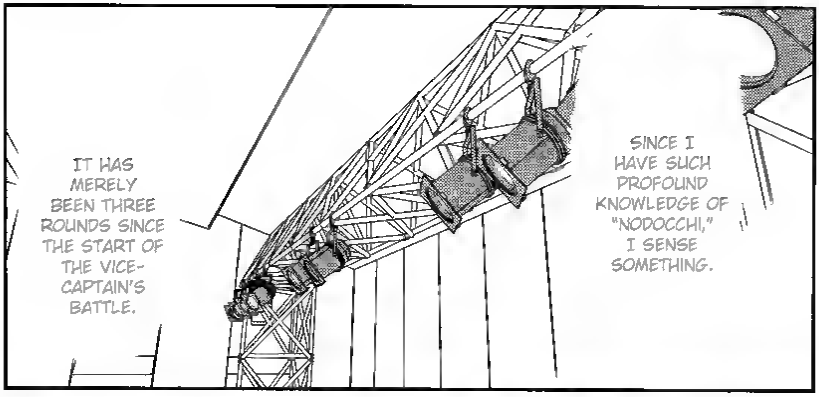

BUT THAT'S WHY SHE'S SO STRONG. THERE'RE PEOPLE LIKE THAT TOO.
HOW LAME OF TITTIES MCGEE.
SHE STOLE TWICE, BUT DOESN'T HAVE TENPAI... AND TO BOOT, SHE'S THE DEALER, BUT ISN'T GOING FOR THE WIN.

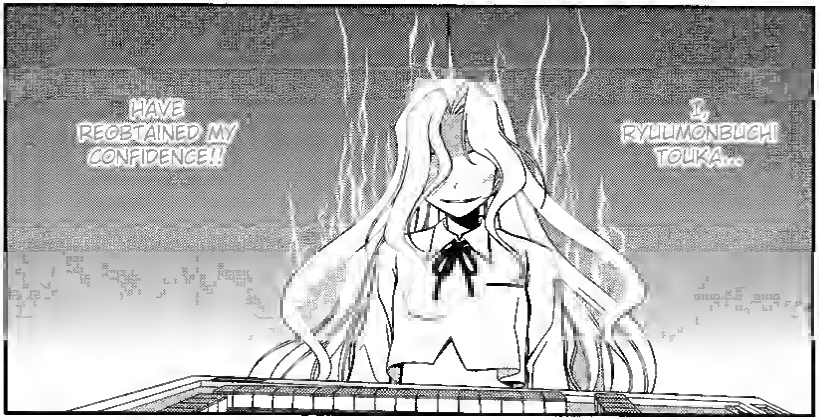

NO TEN.
TENPAI.
ANOTHER DRAW GAME...!!
RYUUMON-BUCHI TOUKA IS UNABLE TO WIN!!
NO TEN.
WHAT IS—
THIS FAINT SENSE OF UNEASE!!
WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS?


THE INTERNET'S STRONGEST PLAYER "NODOCCHI"...
THE ONE THAT I'M FAMILIAR WITH...

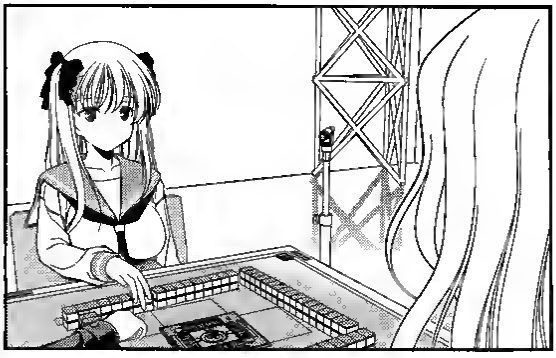

IS HER PLAYING STYLE SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE PRESENT HARAMURA NODOKA BEFORE ME?

NAY!!


IT HAS MERELY BEEN THREE ROUNDS SINCE THE START OF THE VICE-CAPTAIN'S BATTLE.
SINCE I HAVE SUCH PROFOUND KNOWLEDGE OF "NODOCCHI," I SENSE SOMETHING.



HARAMURA NODOKA HAS YET TO UNLEASH HER FULL POTENTIAL...



SHE HAS NOT COMPLETED HER TRANSFORMATION INTO "NOTOCCHI" !!
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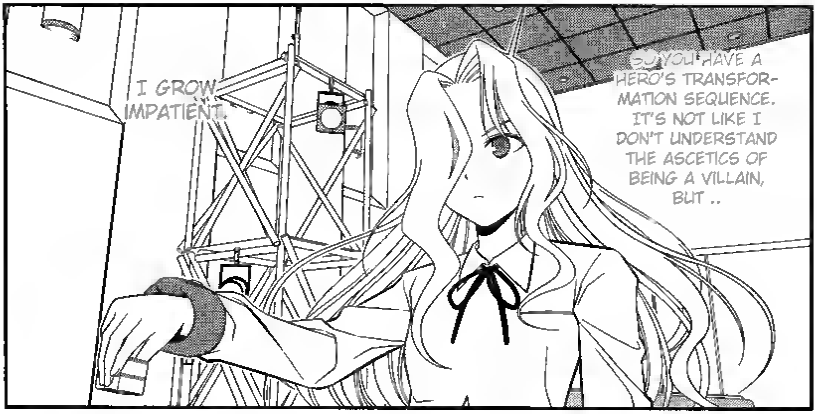
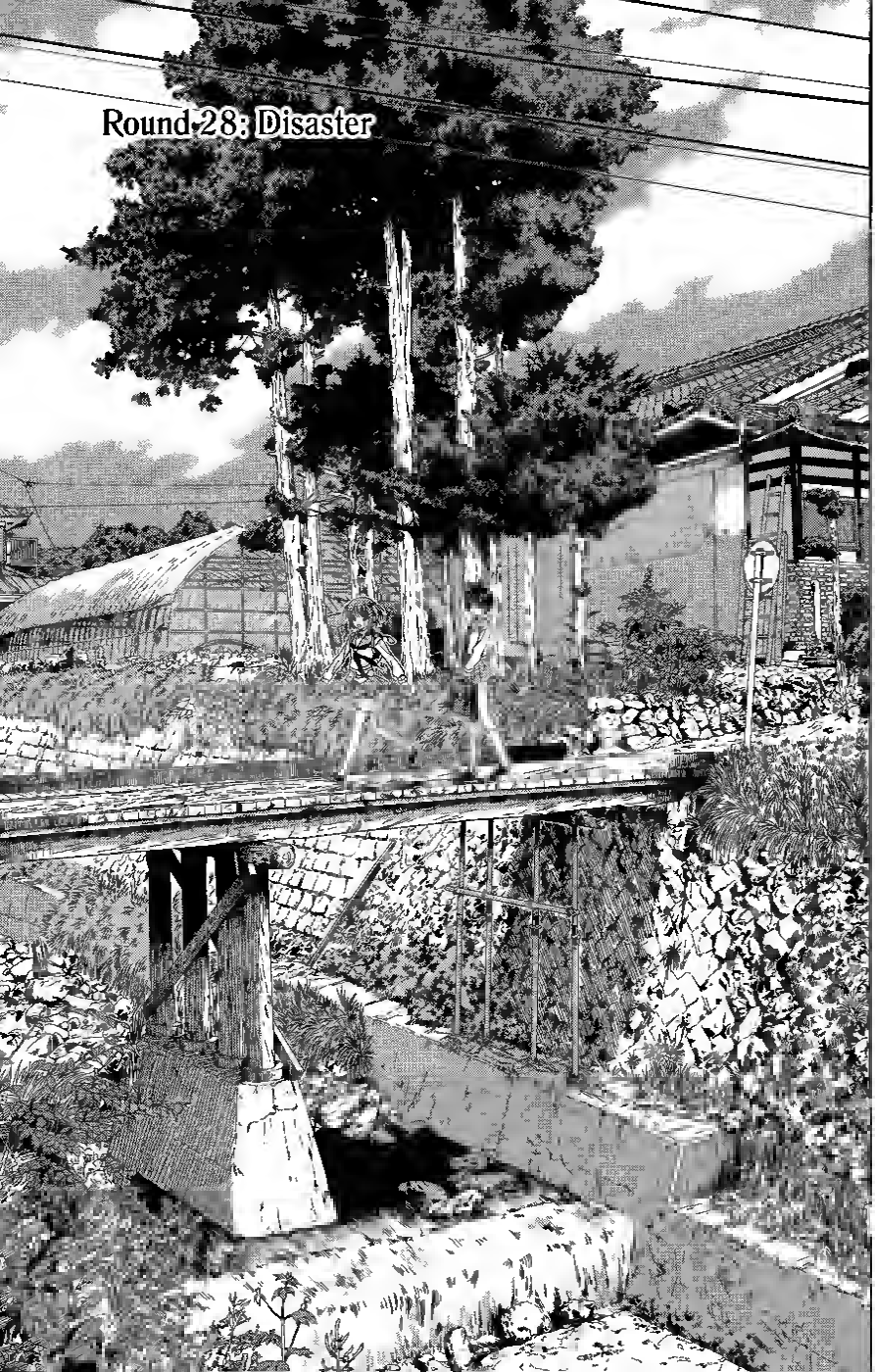

I GROW IMPATIENT.
SO YOU HAVE A HERO'S TRANSFORMATION SEQUENCE. IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE ASCETICS OF BEING A VILLAIN, BUT ..

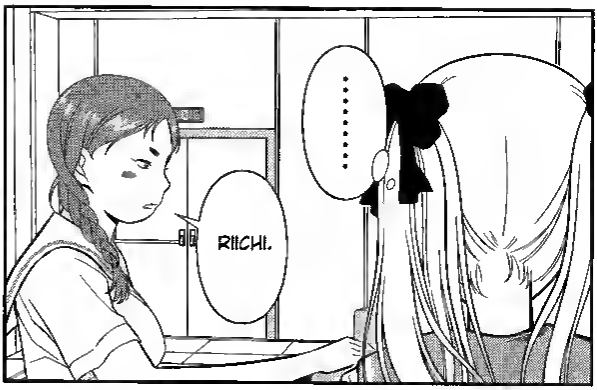
IF YOU DO NOT!
I WILL CRUSH YOU!!

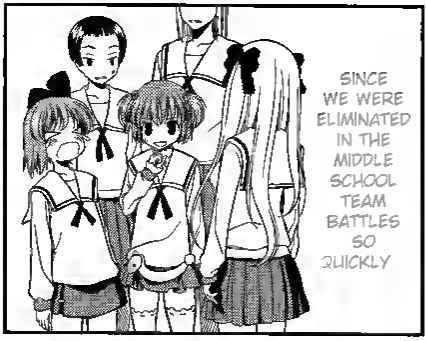
RELEASE YOUR FULL POWER FASTER...

Round 28: Disaster



East Third Round, One Dealer Repeat
カラ カラ
THIS IS STRANGE ...
I FEEL SO NERVOUS ...


.....
RIICHI.


SINCE WE WERE ELIMINATED IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM BATTLES SO QUICKLY

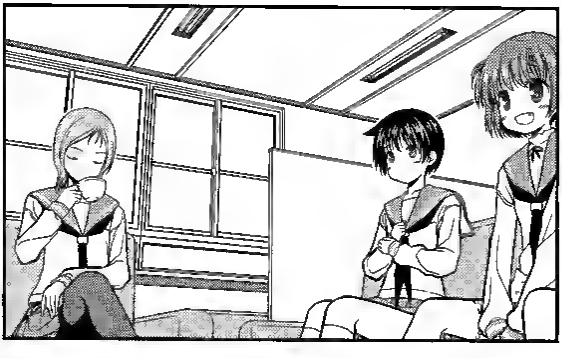
COME TO THINK OF IT ..

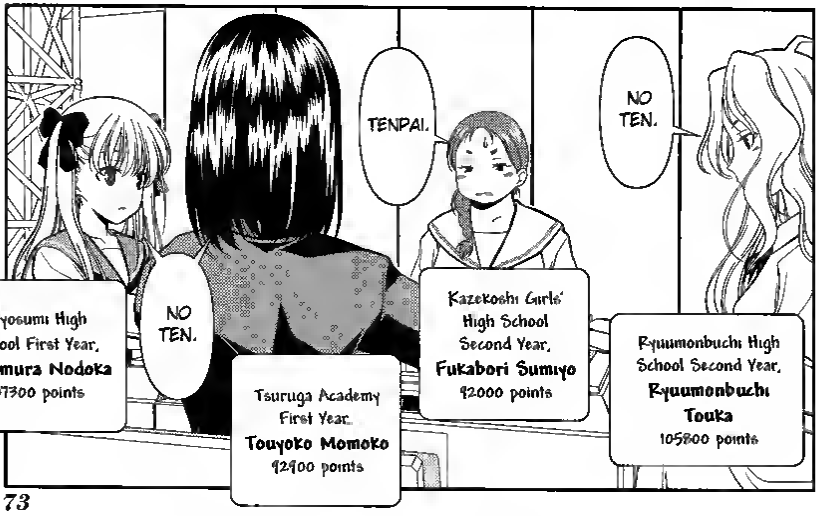
AND ALSO ...

THIS IS MY FIRST TIME FEELING THE WEIGHT OF A TEAM'S EXPECTATIONS DURING THE FINALS...

MIYANAGA-SAN IS WATCHING ...!
SO WITH ALL THAT...!!

IF I DON'T FOCUS ON THE GAME ...!!
ピン!!!




NO TEN.
TENPAI.
NO TEN.
Kyousumi High School First Year, Haramura Nodoka 107300 points
Tsuruga Academy First Year, Touyoko Momoko 92900 points
Kazekoshi Girls' High School Second Year, Fukabori Sumiyo 92000 points
Ryuumonbuchi High School Second Year, Ryuumonbuchi Touka 105800 points

TSURUGA FINISHED WITH A SLEW OF DANGEROUS TILES STORED IN THEIR HAND!!
AND YET ANOTHER DRAW ROUND ...!!
WHAT IF YOU TRIED SOME SPECIAL TRAINING FOR YOUR DRAWING ACTION?
CONCEN-TRATE...
East Fourth Round, Two Dealer Repeats
……
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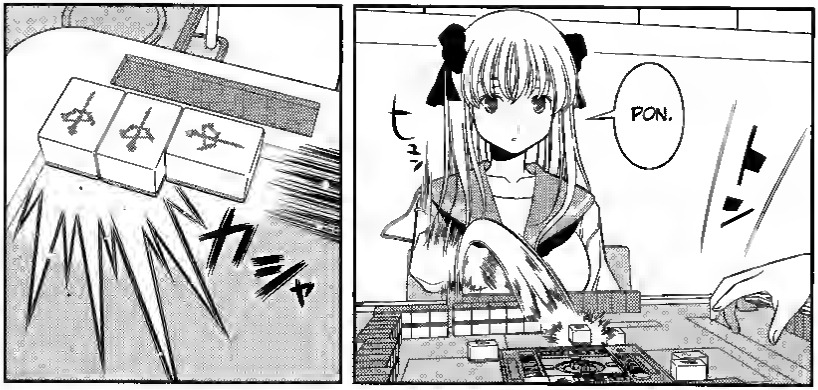
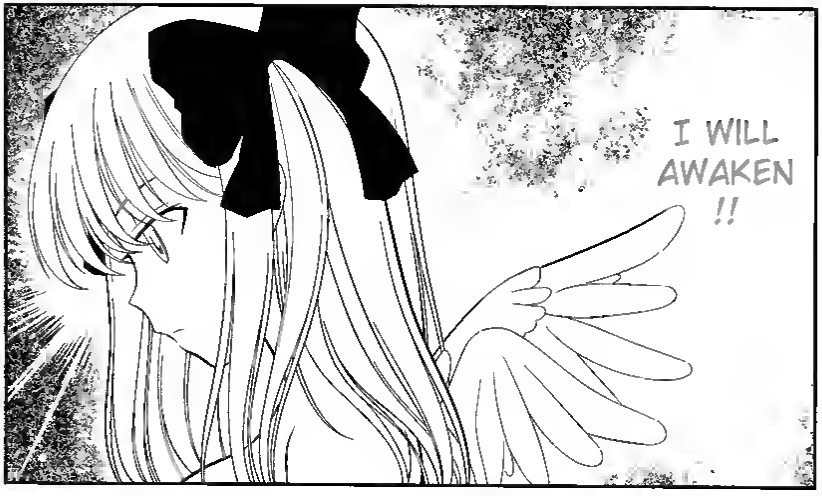
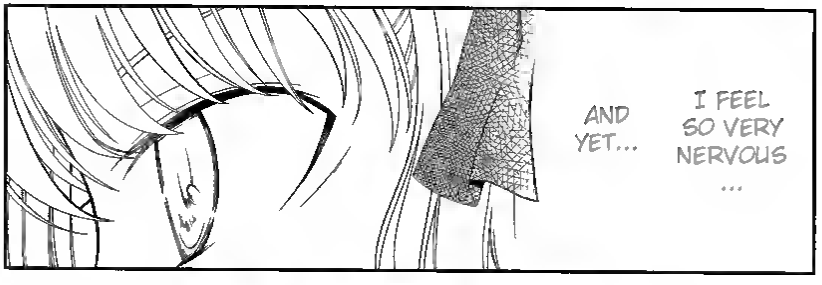

カシャ
トン
PON.

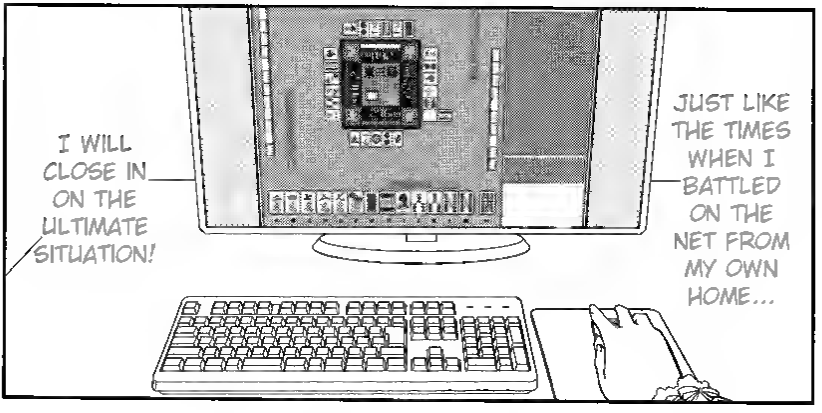
AS USUAL...
WHEN YOU HOLD YOUR PENGUIN, YOUR PLAYING IMPROVES.

CLICK
PON.
パラ

IF IT'S... FOR THIS...


I WILL AWAKEN !!


AND YET...
I FEEL SO VERY NERVOUS ...


I WILL CLOSE IN ON THE ULTIMATE SITUATION!
JUST LIKE THE TIMES WHEN I BATTLED ON THE NET FROM MY OWN HOME...

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RON.
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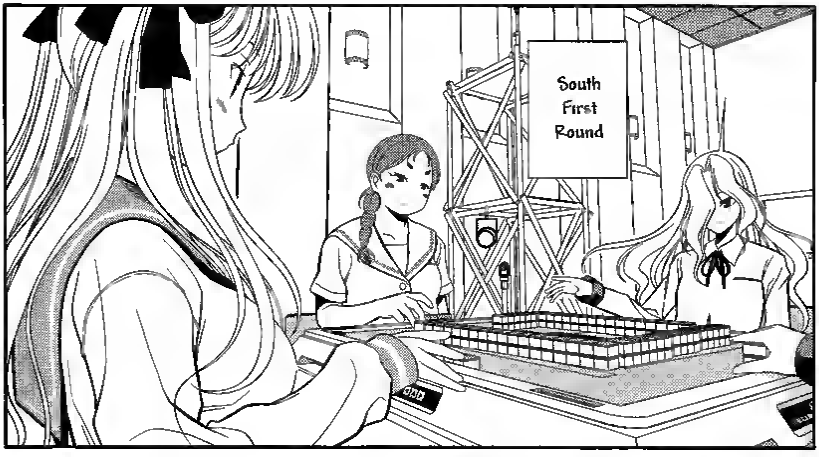
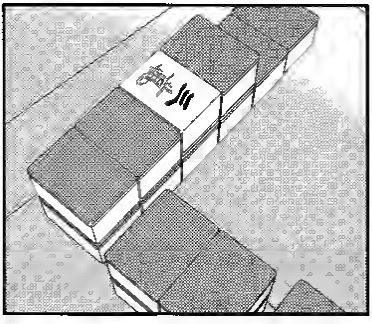
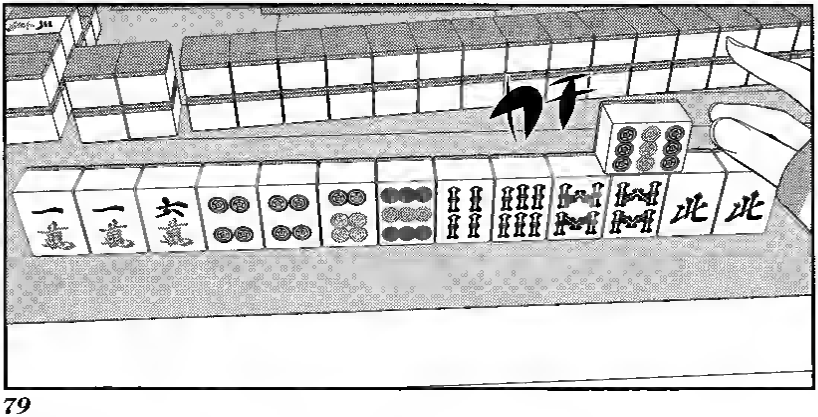
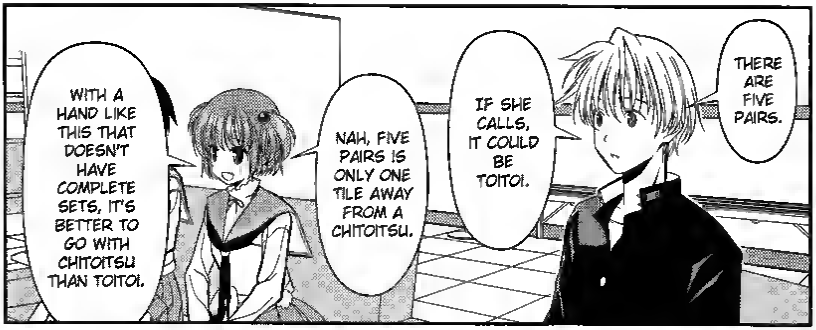
1300 BECOMES 1900 POINTS.

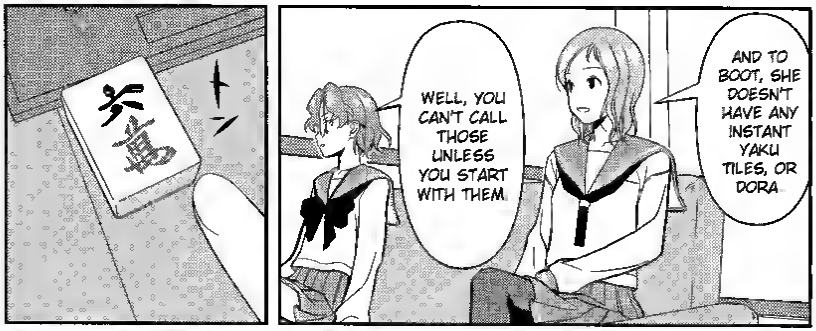
HARA-MURA ...!
ソワソワ
ARE YOU GETTING CLOSE?
ARE YOU GRADUALLY AWAKENING TO YOUR POWER!?

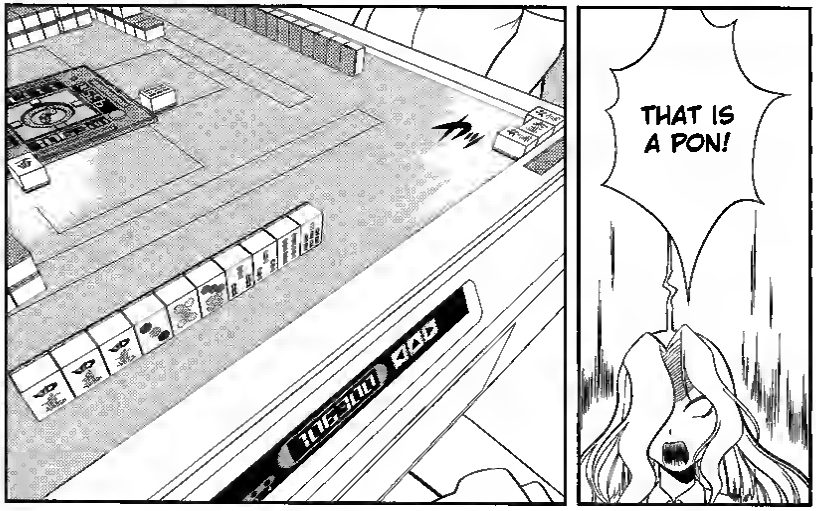

South
First
Round

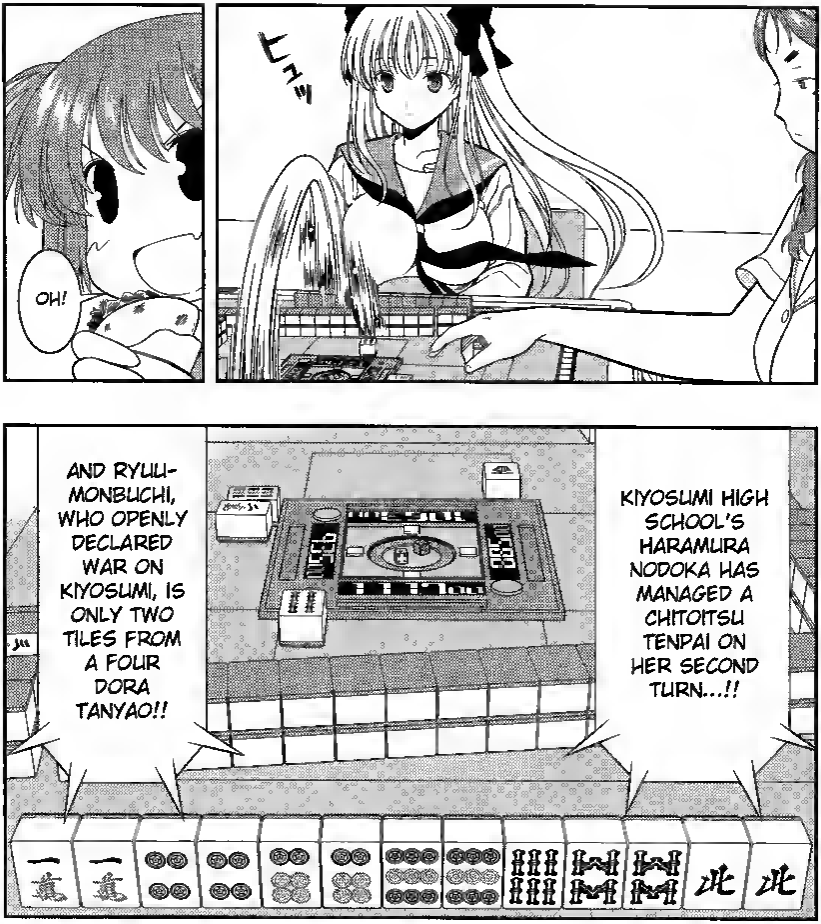


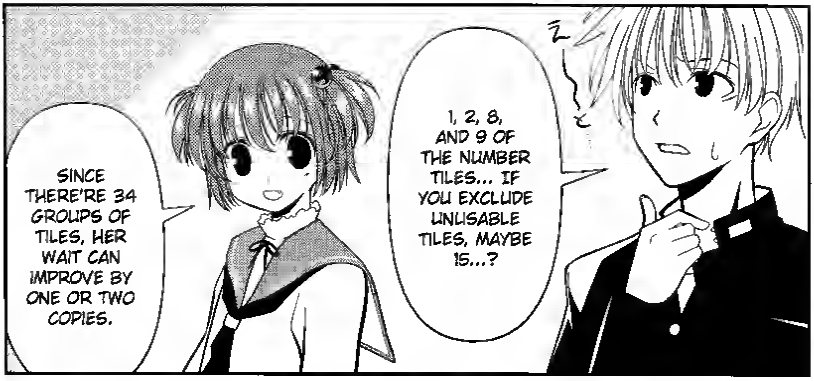


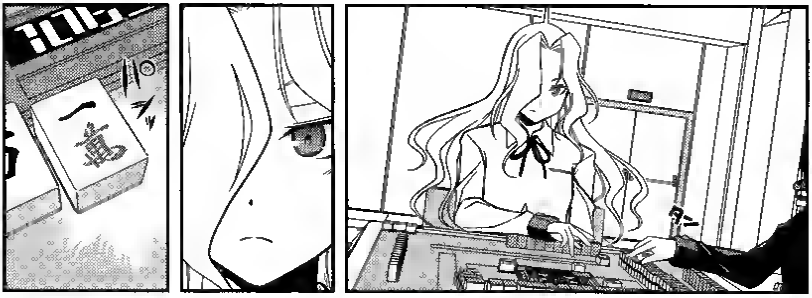

THERE ARE FIVE PAIRS.
IF SHE CALLS, IT COULD BE TOITOI.
NAH, FIVE PAIRS IS ONLY ONE TILE AWAY FROM A CHITOITSU.
WITH A HAND LIKE THIS THAT DOESN'T HAVE COMPLETE SETS, IT'S BETTER TO GO WITH CHITOITSU THAN TOITOI.

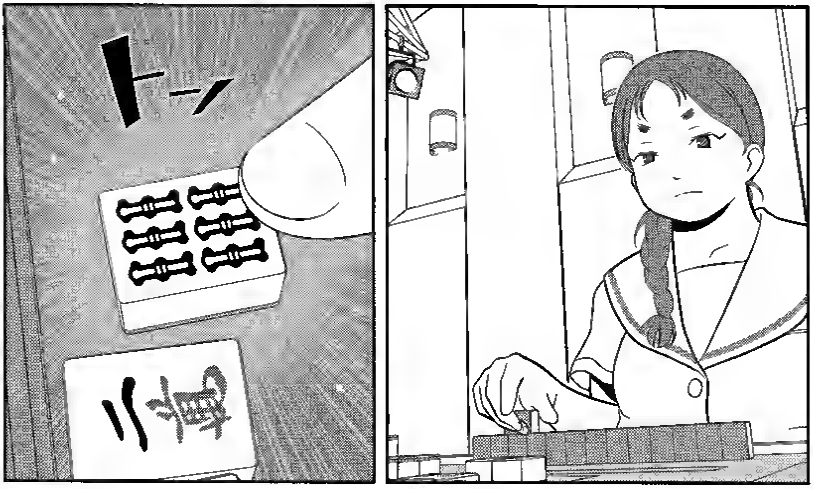

AND TO BOOT, SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY INSTANT YAKU TILES, OR DORA
WELL, YOU CAN'T CALL THOSE UNLESS YOU START WITH THEM.

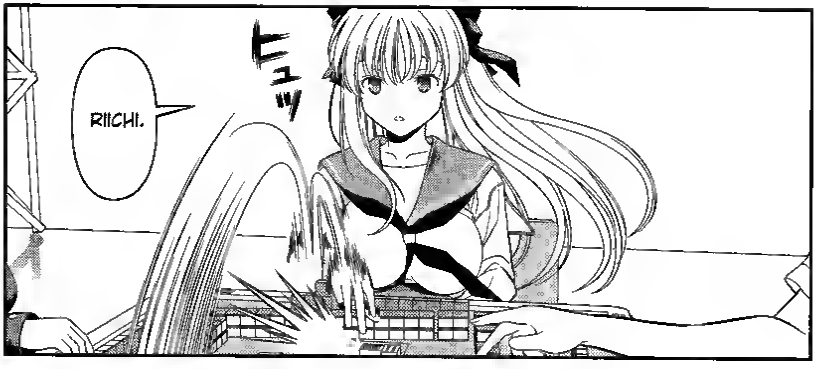

THAT IS A PON!


OH!
AND RYUU-MONBUCHI, WHO OPENLY DECLARED WAR ON KIYOSUMI, IS ONLY TWO TILES FROM A FOUR DORA TANYAO!!
KIYOSUMI HIGH SCHOOL'S HARAMURA NODOKA HAS MANAGED A CHITOITSU TENPAI ON HER SECOND TURN...!!
HOW MANY DIFFERENT TILES DO YOU THINK WOULD MAKE A BETTER WAIT THAN HER ?
IT'S BECAUSE CHITOI ONLY HAS A SINGLE WAIT.
WHY ISN'T SHE CALLING RIICHI?


SINCE THERE'RE 34 GROUPS OF TILES, HER WAIT CAN IMPROVE BY ONE OR TWO COPIES.
1, 2, 8, AND 9 OF THE NUMBER TILES... IF YOU EXCLUDE UNUSABLE TILES, MAYBE 15...?






ヒュッ
RIICHI.

UM ...
KIYOSUMI HIGH SCHOOL'S HARAMURA NODOKA... OVERLOOKS THE 西 THAT KAZEKOSHI'S FUKABORI DISCARDED ...
AND CALLS A RIICHI WITH THE 西 SHE JUST DREW AS HER WAITING PAIR...!!
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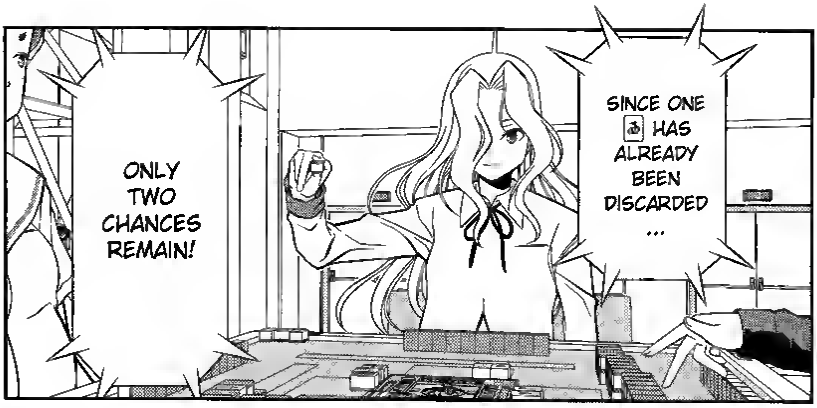
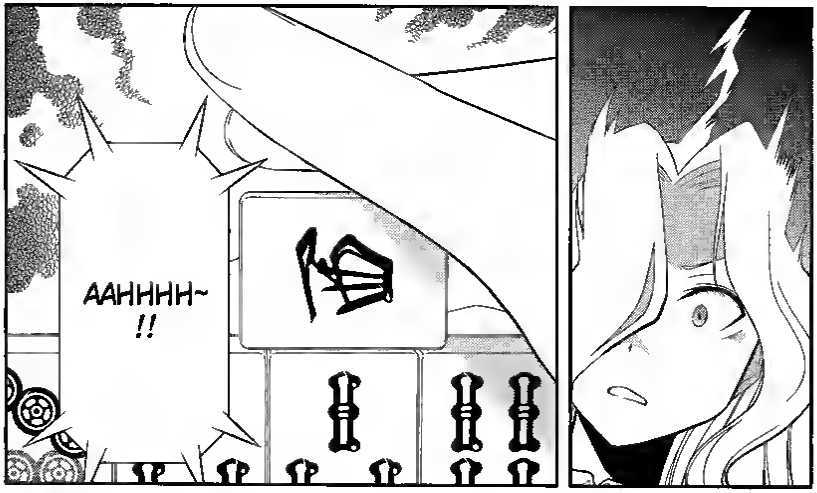
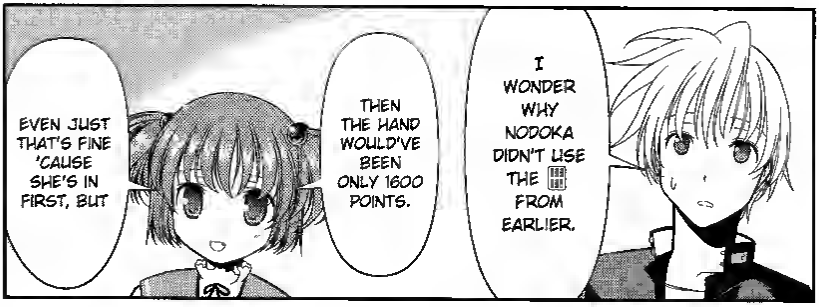
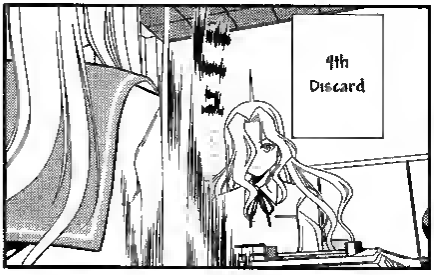

ONLY TWO CHANCES REMAIN!
SINCE ONE 3 HAS ALREADY BEEN DISCARDED ...


AAHHHH~ !!

SHE SHOULD PLAY IT SAFE.
THAT SUCKS.
IN ONE SHOT, THE RYUU-MONBUCHI PLAYER HAS SEIZED HOLD OF ONE OF THOSE TILES...!

WILL THIS BECOME ANOTHER DRAW ROUND ...!?
SHE STEPS DOWN ...!!
106300

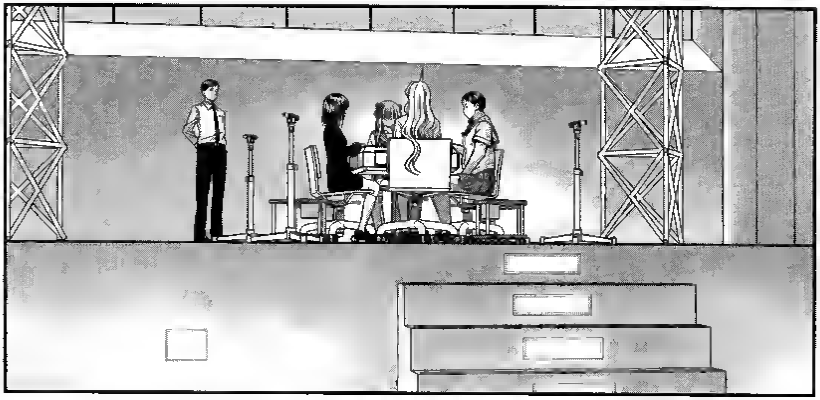

EVEN JUST THAT'S FINE 'CAUSE SHE'S IN FIRST, BUT
THEN THE HAND WOULD'VE BEEN ONLY 1600 POINTS.
I WONDER WHY NODOKA DIDN'T USE THE FROM EARLIER.


4th Discard

IF SHE GETS ANY REVERSE DORA OFF OF A RIICHI TSUMO, IT BECOMES 12,000 POINTS.
IF SHE GETS ANY. .

TSUMO.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, DON'T GET ANYTHING !!
REVERSE DORA...
1600 AND 3200, PLEASE.
HARA-MURA ...!?

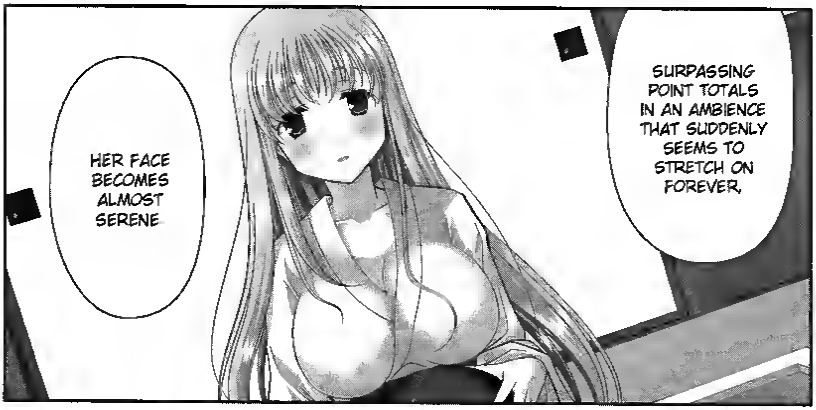


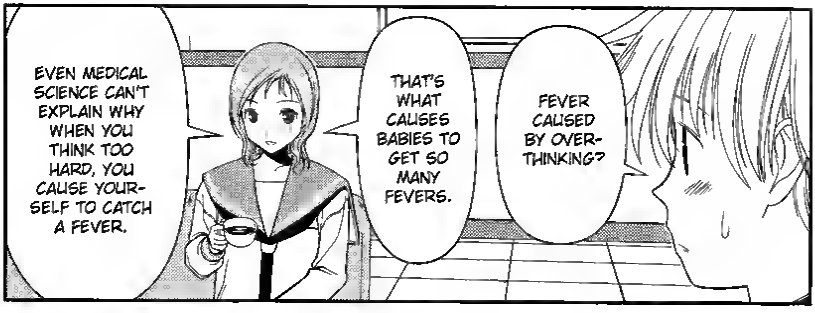
HARAMURA NODOKA...!?
……?

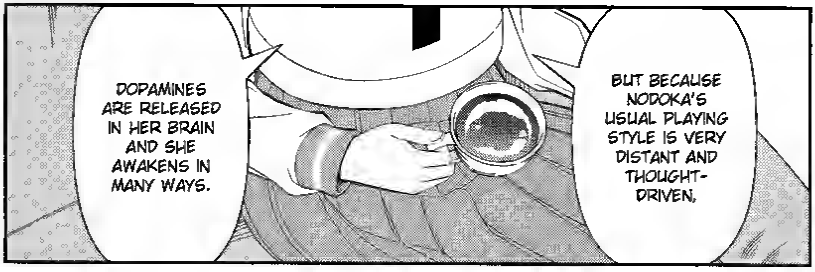
Round 29: Another Face

AW, CRAP.
It's here...
NODO-CHAN FEVER!!
HER OPPO-NENTS ARE DOOMED!

EVEN DURING THE TRAINING CAMP, IT HAPPENED SEVERAL TIMES
WHEN THE USUALLY COOL NODOKA HOLDS HER PENGUIN AND CALMS DOWN..
SHE BECOMES EXPRES-SIONLESS, ALMOST LIKE A MACHINE.


SURPASSING POINT TOTALS IN AN AMBIENCE THAT SUDDENLY SEEMS TO STRETCH ON FOREVER.
HER FACE BECOMES ALMOST SERENE


FEVER CAUSED BY OVER-THINKING?
THAT'S WHAT CAUSES BABIES TO GET SO MANY FEVERS.
EVEN MEDICAL SCIENCE CAN'T EXPLAIN WHY WHEN YOU THINK TOO HARD, YOU CAUSE YOURSELF TO CATCH A FEVER.


BUT BECAUSE NODOKA'S USUAL PLAYING STYLE IS VERY DISTANT AND THOUGHT-DRIVEN,
DOPAMINES ARE RELEASED IN HER BRAIN AND SHE AWAKENS IN MANY WAYS.

IT'S AS IF NODOKA TRANSFORMED INTO A DIGITAL, DIVINE AVATAR
TRUE ...
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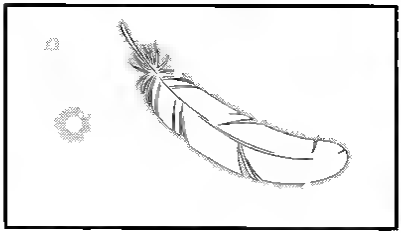
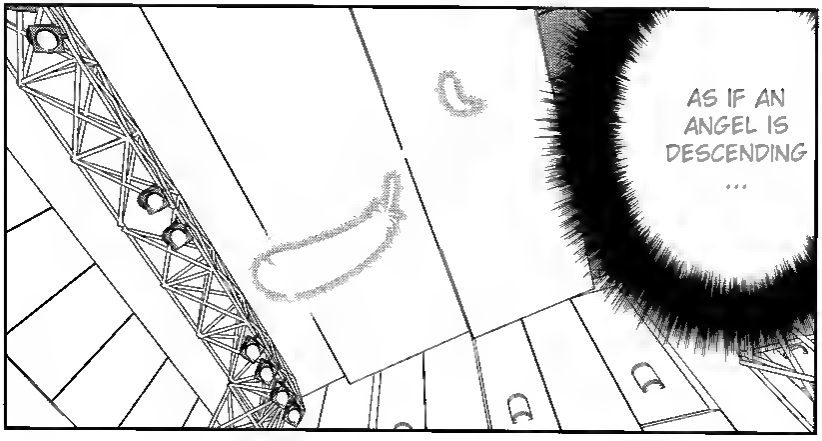
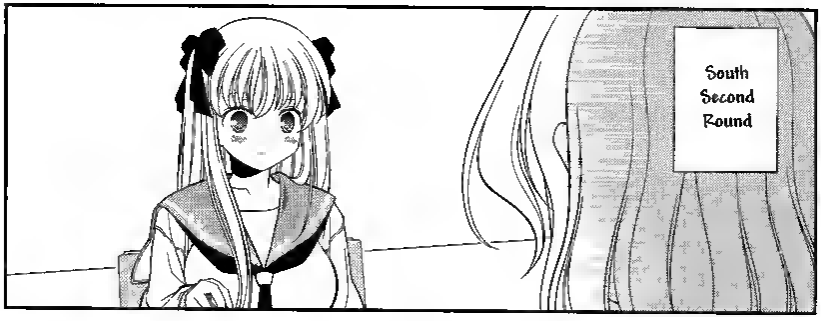
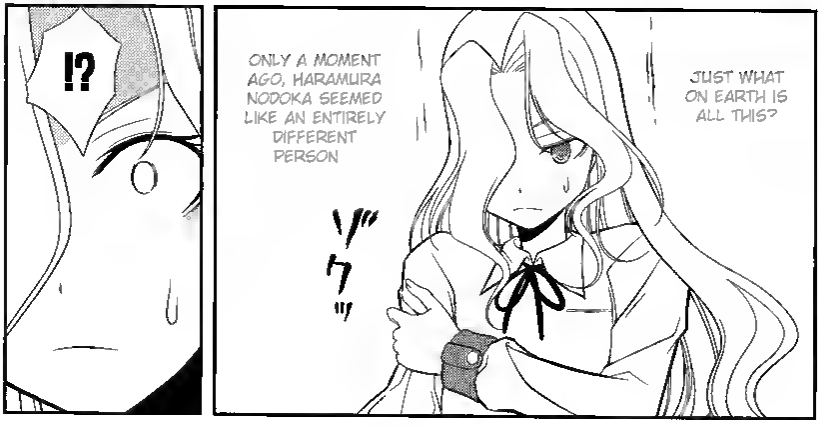
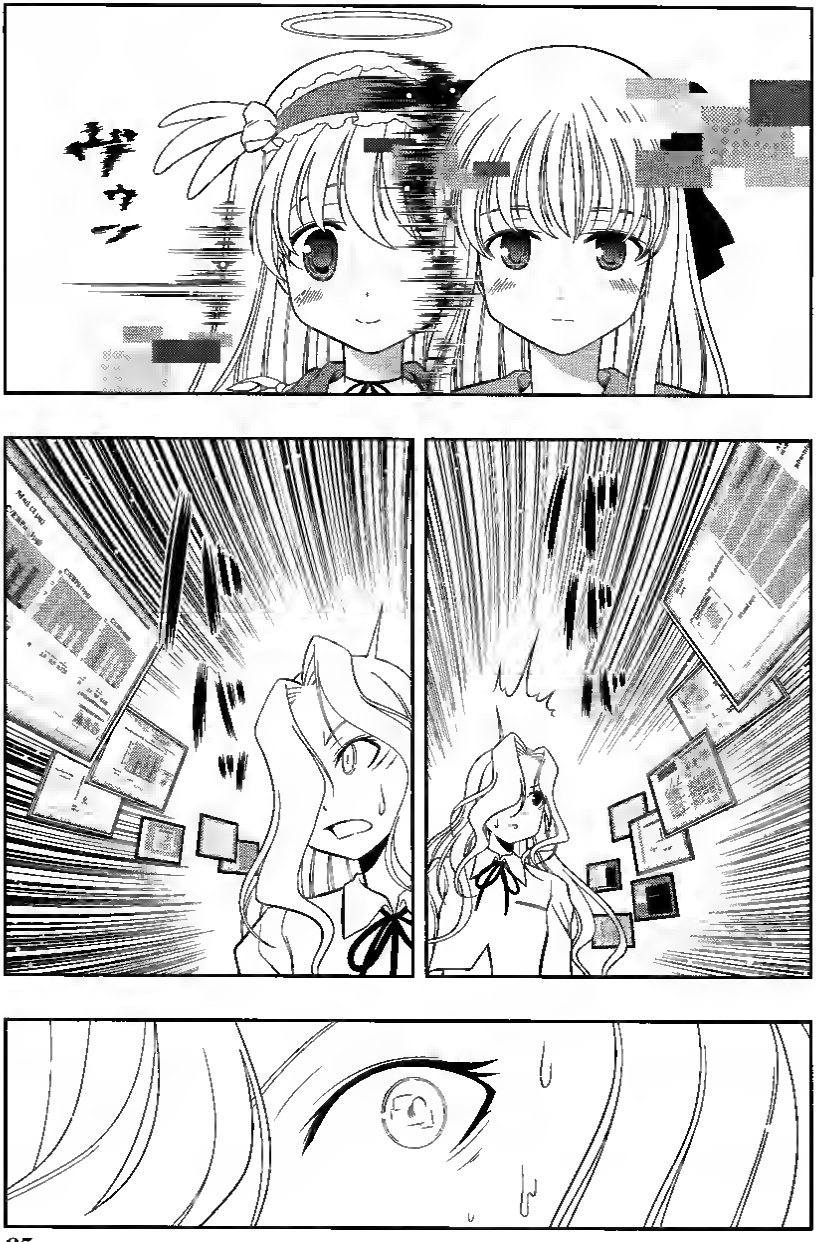
WHEN SHE'S LIKE THIS, NO ONE CAN READ NODO-CHAN'S HAND!

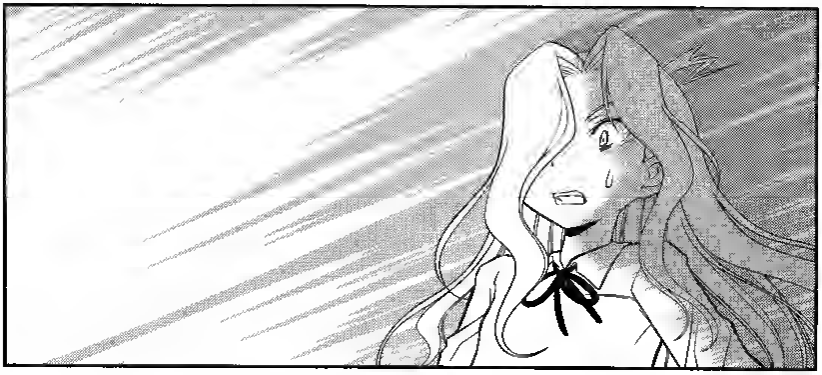



AS IF AN ANGEL IS DESCENDING ...

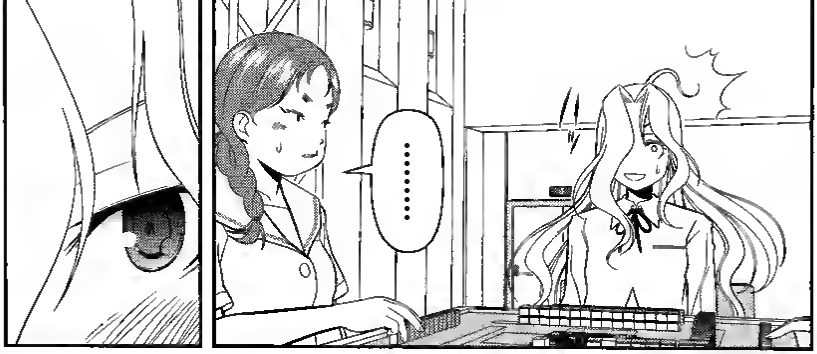

South Second Round

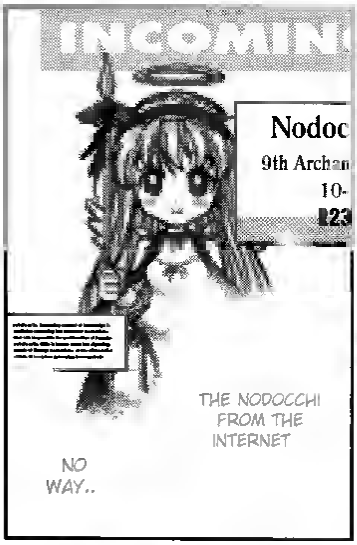

!?
ONLY A MOMENT AGO, HARAMURA NODOKA SEEMED LIKE AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PERSON
JUST WHAT ON EARTH IS ALL THIS?





GOOD MORNING, NODOCCHI !!
GOOD MORNING ...
G...

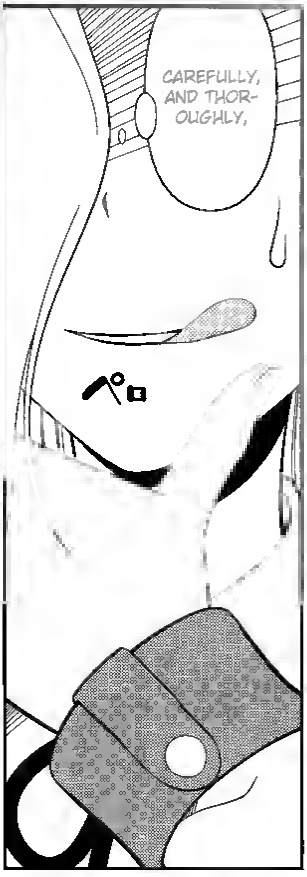

.....

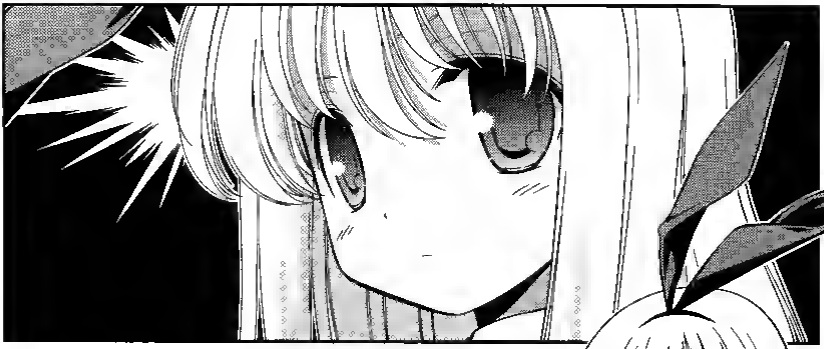

INCOMING
Nodoc
9th Archan
10-
23
THE NODOCCHI FROM THE INTERNET
NO WAY..

THIS PRESENCE THIS PRESSURE

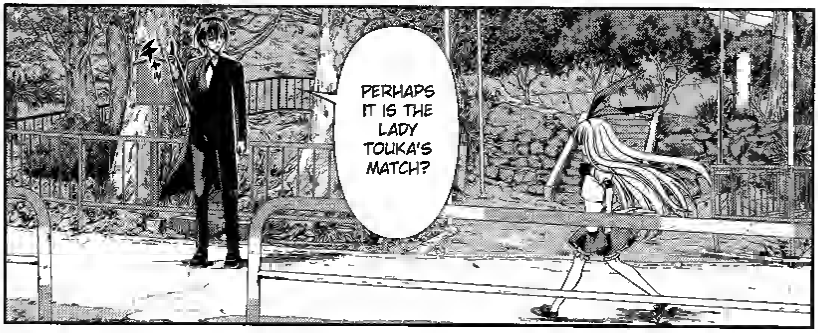
THIS RAW SENSATION IS AS EXCEP-TIONALLY JUICY AS I IMAGINED!!
THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME...

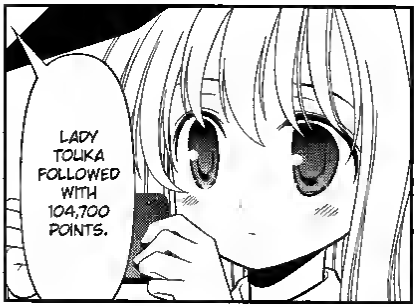
I WILL PARTAKE OF YOUR DELICATE FLAVOR WITH THIS TONGUE!!


CAREFULLY, AND THOR-OUGHLY,

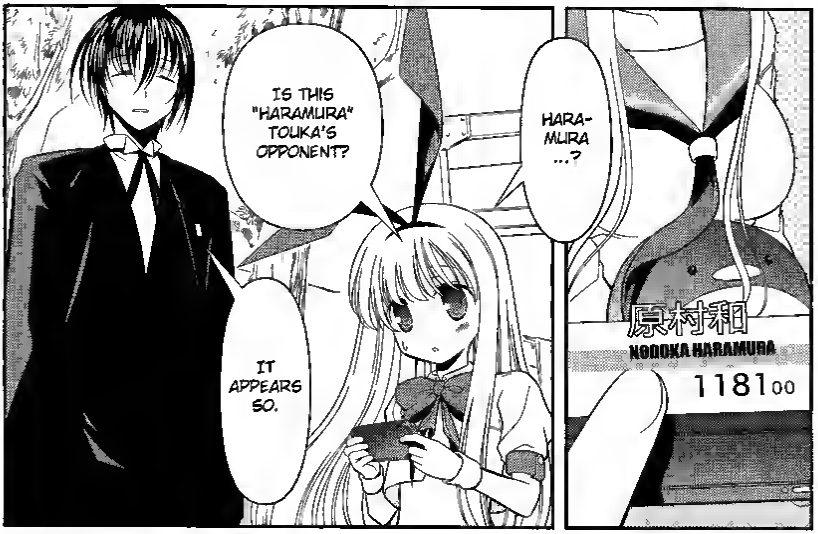


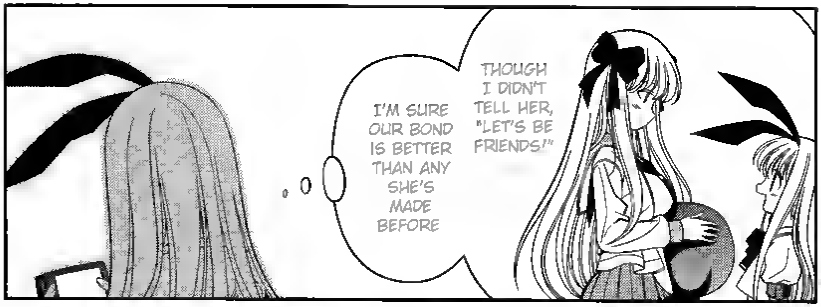
MISS KOROMO ?
WHAT IS THE MATTER ?


PERHAPS IT IS THE LADY TOUKA'S MATCH?

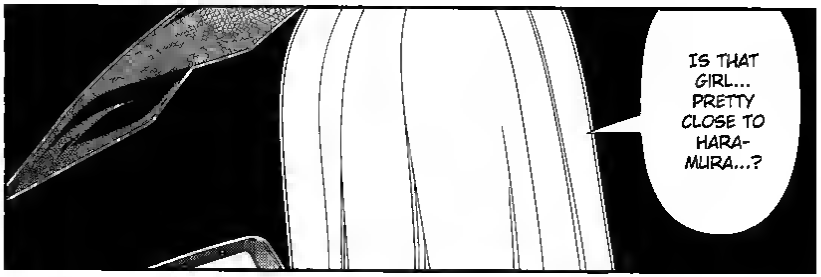

LADY TOUKA FOLLOWED WITH 104,700 POINTS.

IN THE SECOND SOUTH ROUND OF THE FIRST HANCHAN, KIYOSUMI WAS IN FIRST PLACE WITH 118,100 POINTS.


IS THIS "HARAMURA" TOUKA'S OPPONENT?
IT APPEARS SO.
HARA-MURA ...?
原村和
NODOKA HARAMURA
118100


THOUGH I DIDN'T TELL HER, "LET'S BE FRIENDS!"
I'M SURE OUR BOND IS BETTER THAN ANY SHE'S MADE BEFORE

THE ONE LADY KOROMO REFERRED TO AS "A PROBLEMATIC ADVERSARY" AND THIS HARAMURA BOTH ATTEND THE SAME KIYOSUMI HIGH SCHOOL.


IS THAT GIRL... PRETTY CLOSE TO HARAMURA...?

... IT APPEARED THAT WAY TO ME. HOWEVER ...

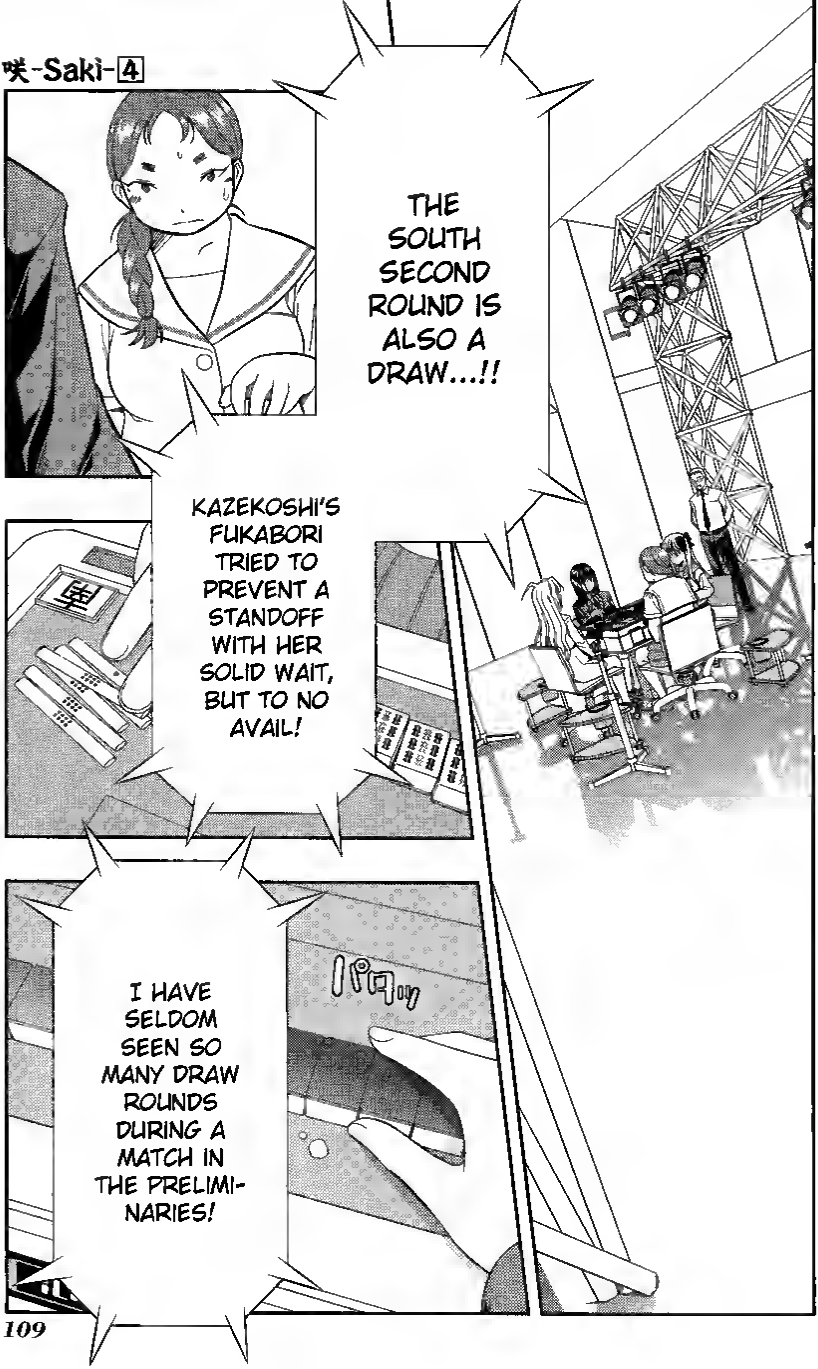
ヒュウ
I SEE...
KOROMO LOVES THIS SEASON.
THIS BREEZE FEELS NICE.
AS MOTHER OFTEN SAID..
.....
IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT WE MUST ANNUALLY EXPERIENCE THE SHORTENING OF SUCH MOMENTS.
IT'S BOTH WARM AND COOL, AND FRESH GREEN LEAVES SHINE AS THE DAYS OF SUMMER LENGTHEN.

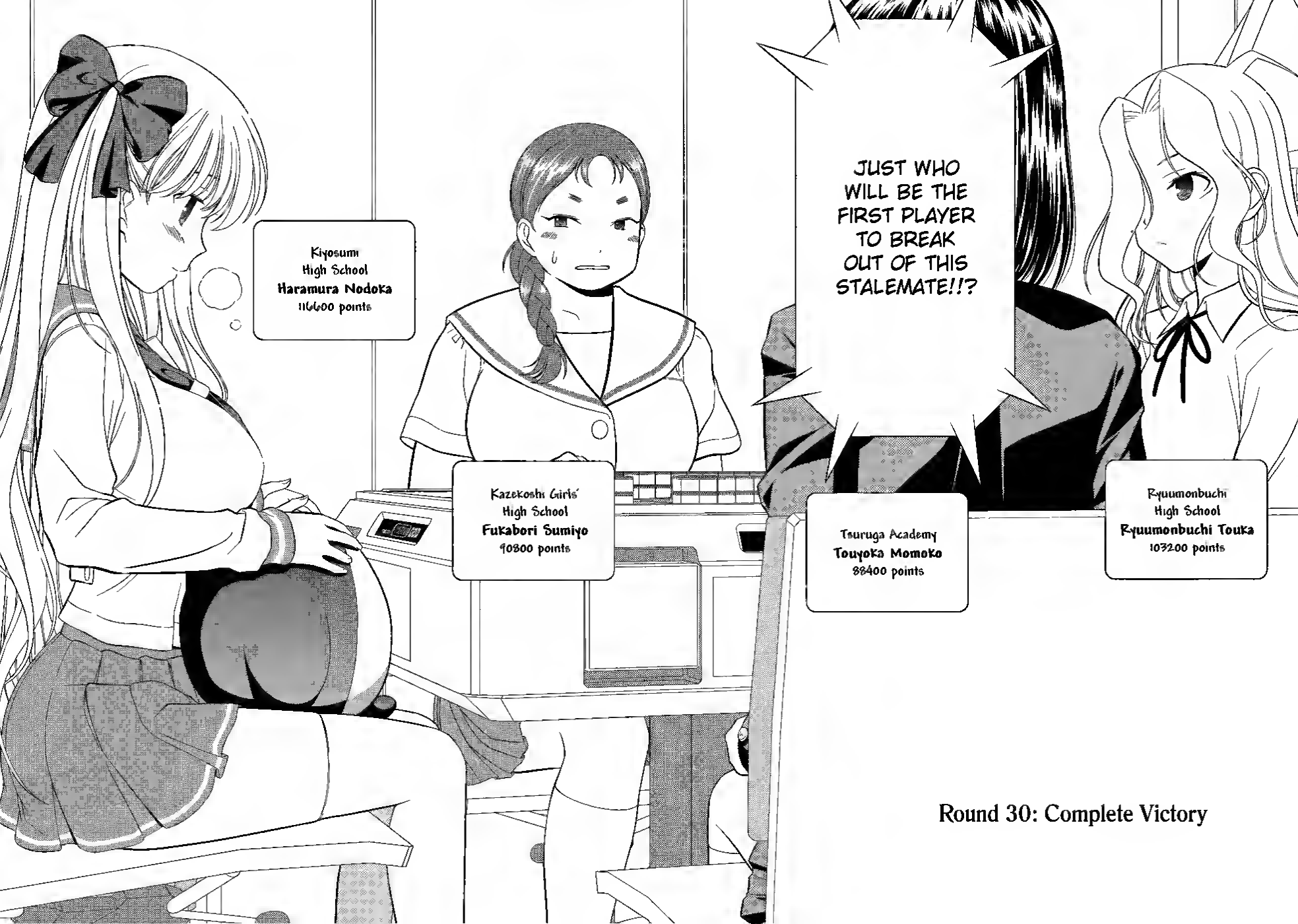
THIS LIGHT, THIS BREEZE, THIS MOMENT... IF YOU CAN CHERISH THEM...

YOUR HEART WILL TRULY BE FILLED WITH LOVE AND HAPPINESS.
BUT IN MAHJONG, YOU NEED NONE OF THOSE.

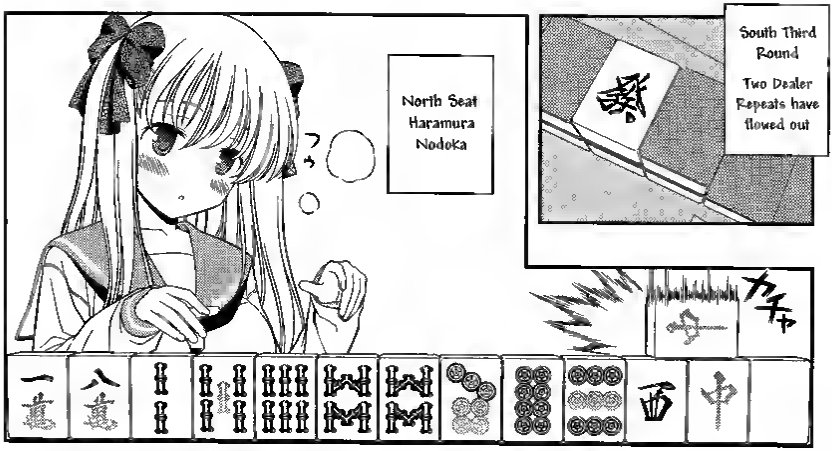
HAPPINESS IS FOUND IN PASSING MOMENTS.
YOU CANNOT ATTAIN FORTUNE OR COMFORT WITH LONG-TERM SELF-FULFILLMENT ...

IN MAHJONG, THE FOUR PLAYERS AREN'T ALWAYS ABLE TO SHARE THEIR ENJOYMENT.
AND IT SEEMS THOSE WHO PLAY THE GAME WITH ME ARE RESTRAINED BY VISIONS OF THE ENTIRE WORLD'S DEMISE...
KOROMO WILL, ONCE MORE,
BE LEFT ALL ALONE.

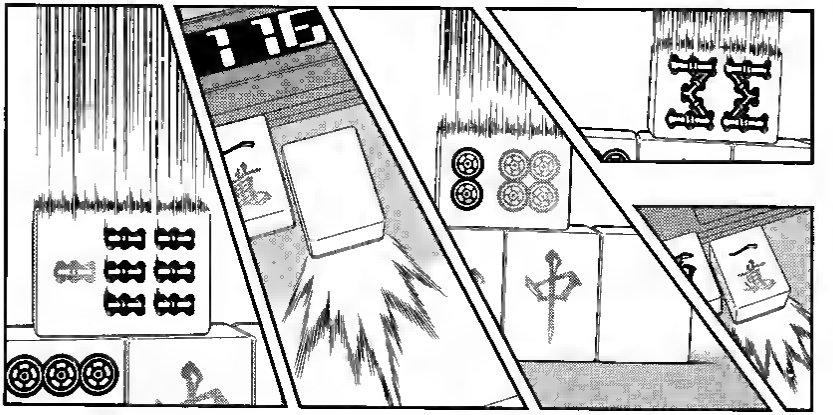

THE SOUTH SECOND ROUND IS ALSO A DRAW...!!
KAZEKOSHI'S FUKABORI TRIED TO PREVENT A STANDOFF WITH HER SOLID WAIT, BUT TO NO AVAIL!
I HAVE SELDOM SEEN SO MANY DRAW ROUNDS DURING A MATCH IN THE PRELIMI-NARIES!

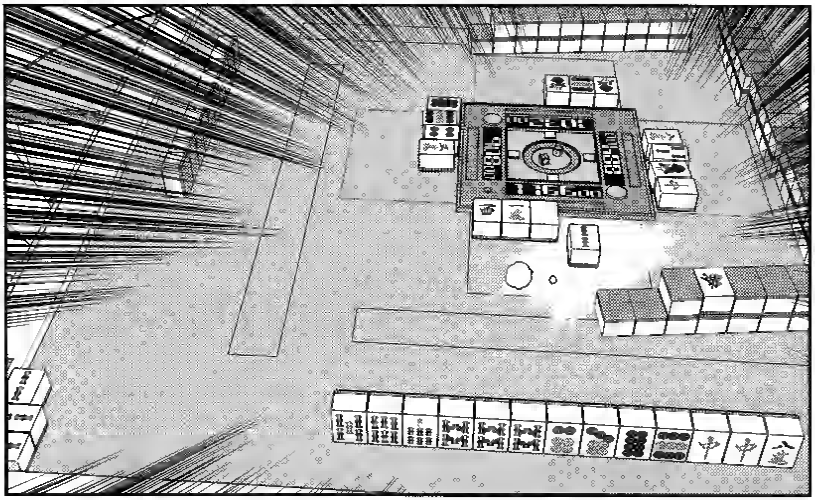


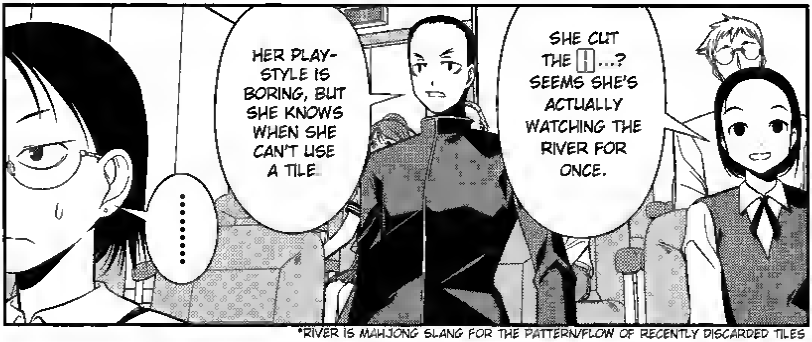
Round 30: Complete Victory


North Seat
Haramura
Nodoka
South Third
Round
Two Dealer
Repeats have
flowed out
カチャ

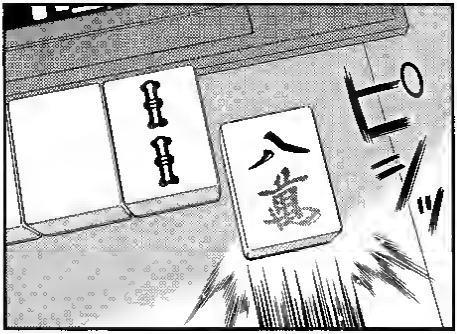
トン
BUT, EAST IS ALREADY DISCARD-ING IT.
TWO DORAS!

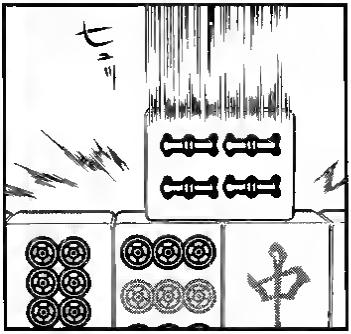


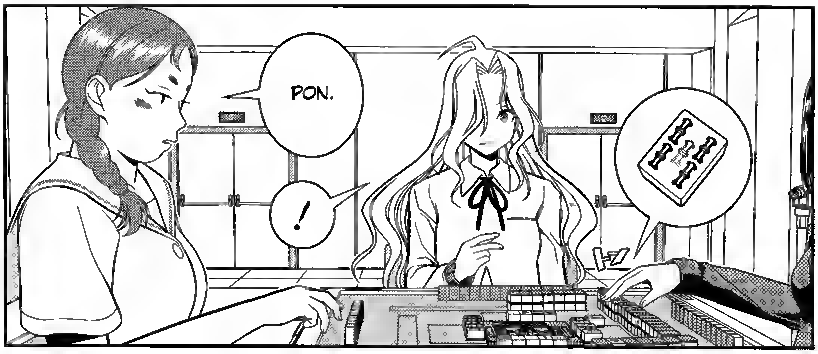


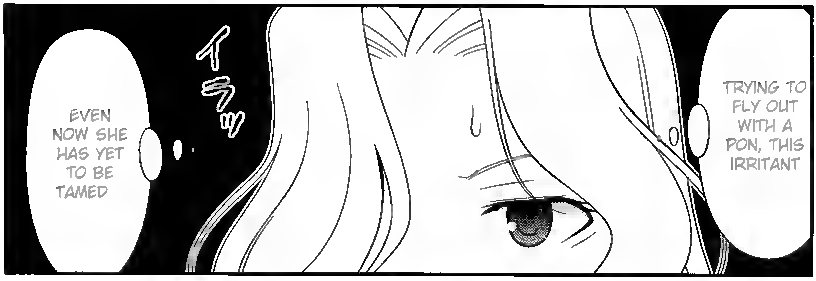

HER PLAY-STYLE IS BORING, BUT SHE KNOWS WHEN SHE CAN'T USE A TILE.
.....
SHE CUT THE [1]...? SEEMS SHE'S ACTUALLY WATCHING THE RIVER FOR ONCE.

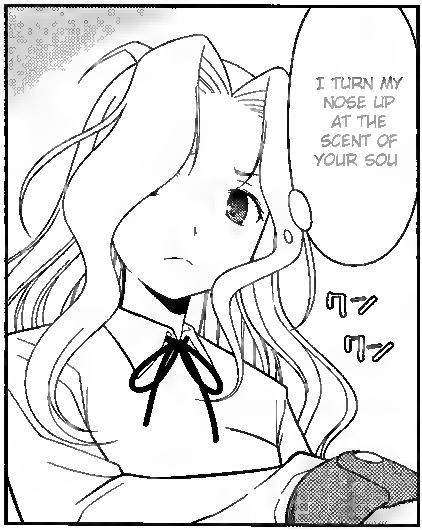
*RIVER IS MAHJONG SLANG FOR THE PATTERN/FLOW OF RECENTLY DISCARDED TILES

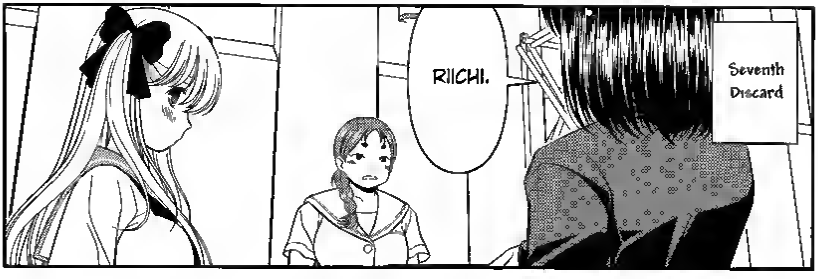


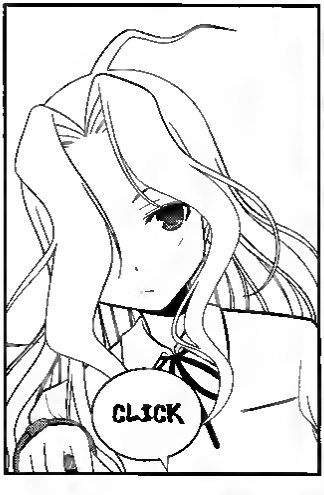



PON.
!

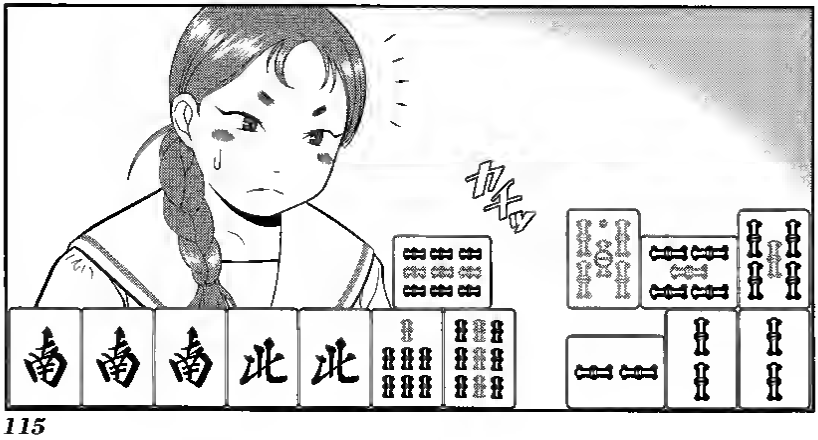

TRYING TO FLY OUT WITH A PON, THIS IRRITANT
EVEN NOW SHE HAS YET TO BE TAMED


I TURN MY NOSE UP AT THE SCENT OF YOUR SOU

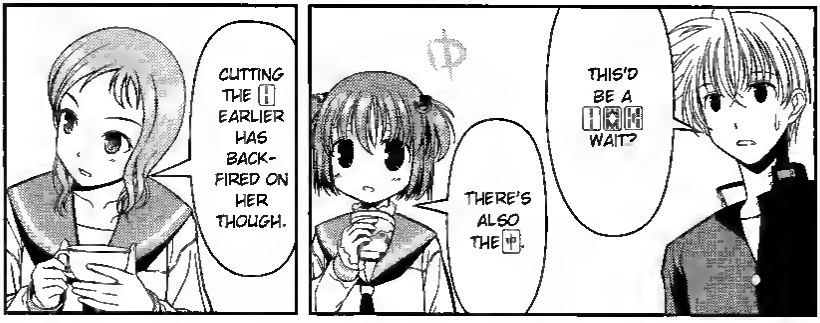

RIICHI.
Seventh Discard

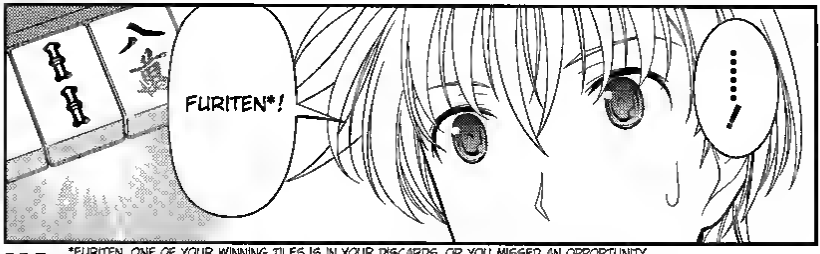

CLICK

A RIICHI FROM TSURUGA ACADEMY'S TOUYOKO MOMOKO!!
カシッ


カチッ

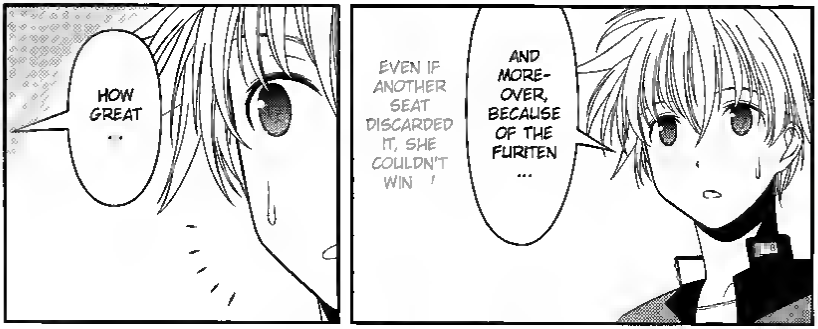
HER HAND IS DANGEROUS TOO.
PLAYING THAT TILE AGAINST A DEALER'S RIICHI...
KAZEKOSHI'S FUKABORI HAS UPGRADED HER HAND TO A HANEMAN! SHE COULD CAUSE AN UPSET!

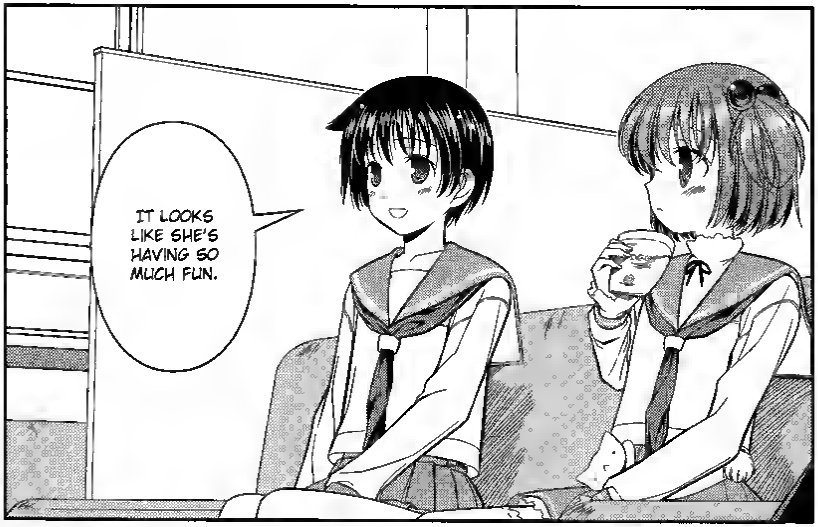




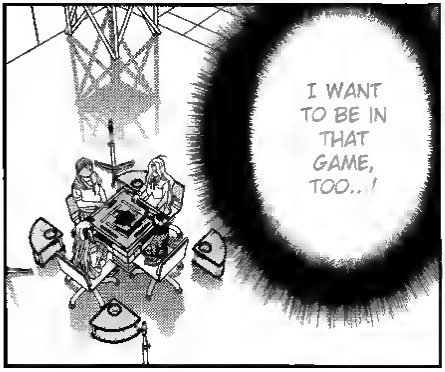
*FURITEN: ONE OF YOUR WINNING TILES IS IN YOUR DISCARDS, OR YOU MISSED AN OPPORTUNITY TO WIN OFF OF A DISCARD AND NOTHING COMES ON YOUR TURN, OR YOU MISSED A CHANCE TO WIN AFTER CALLING RIICHI. A PERSON IN FURITEN IS NO LONGER ABLE TO WIN OFF OF DISCARDS.

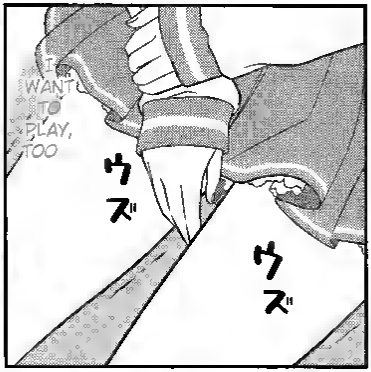
BUT, EVEN WITH FURITEN, NODOKA HAS SUCH A VARIETY OF WAITS THAT IF SHE RIICHI'D...
ARE YOU BLIND?
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS ONE 八 AND 中 EACH.

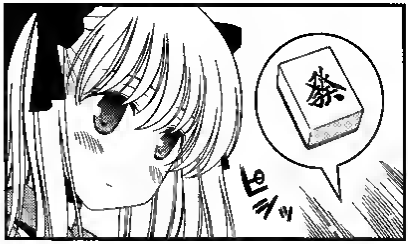

AND MORE-OVER, BECAUSE OF THE FURITEN ...
EVEN IF ANOTHER SEAT DISCARDED IT, SHE COULDN'T WIN !
HOW GREAT ..


IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING SO MUCH FUN.

AT THE TRAINING CAMP AS WELL, FEVER MODE HARAMURA-SAN WAS SO AMAZING.


I WANT TO BE IN THAT GAME, TOO..!


I WANT TO PLAY, TOO
ウズ
ウズ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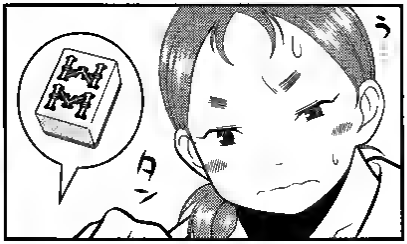
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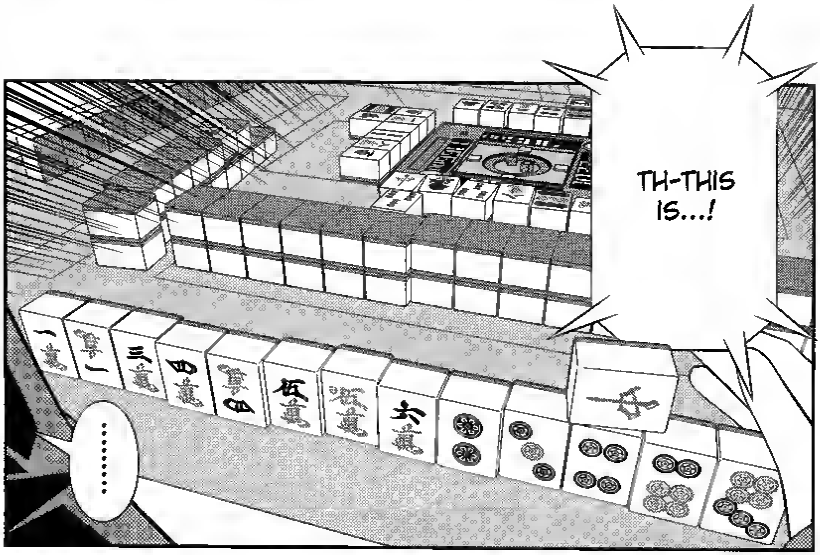
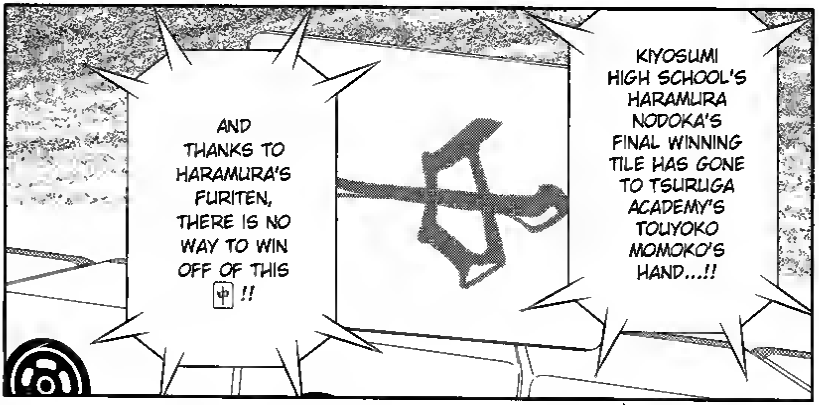
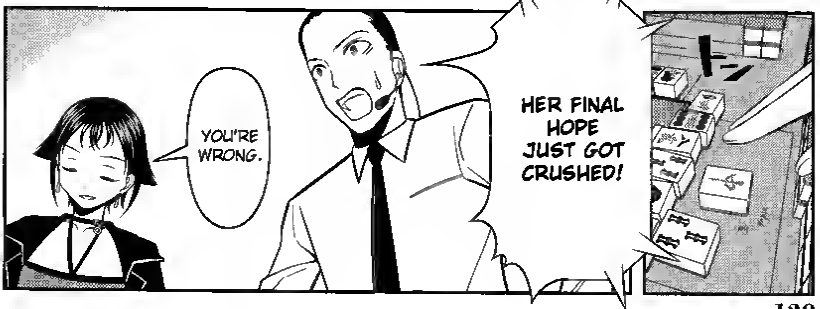
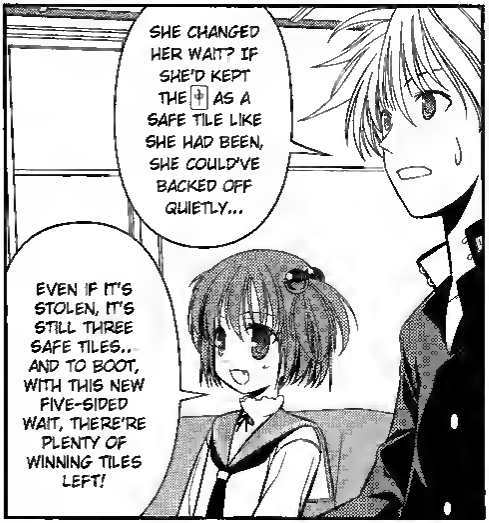

TH-THIS IS...!
.....

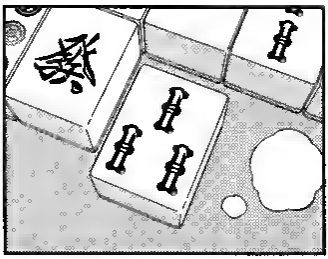

KIYOSUMI HIGH SCHOOL'S HARAMURA NODOKA'S FINAL WINNING TILE HAS GONE TO TSURUGA ACADEMY'S TOUYOKO MOMOKO'S HAND...!!
AND THANKS TO HARAMURA'S FURITEN, THERE IS NO WAY TO WIN OFF OF THIS 中 !!

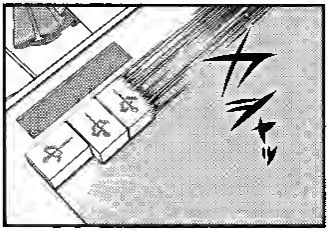

HER FINAL HOPE JUST GOT CRUSHED!
YOU'RE WRONG.

PON.

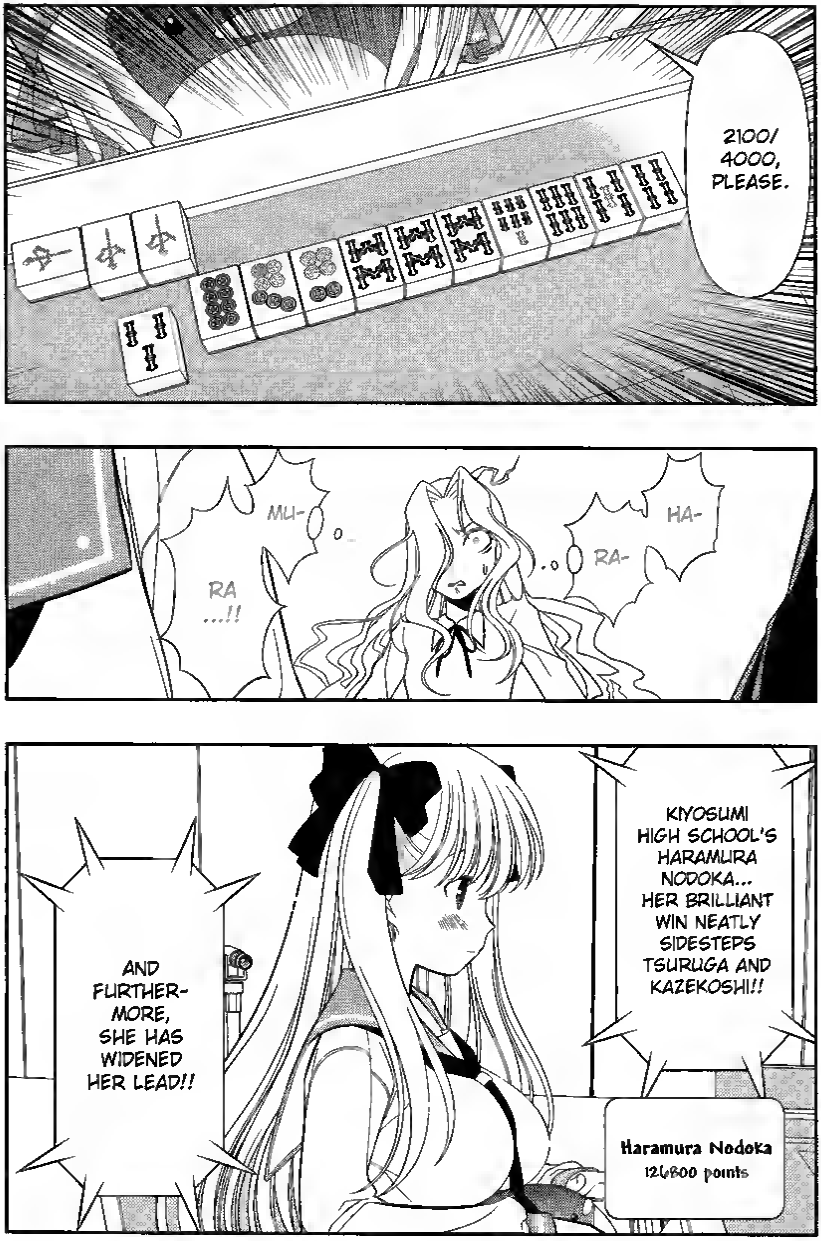
EH ...?


SHE CHANGED HER WAIT? IF SHE'D KEPT THE 中 AS A SAFE TILE LIKE SHE HAD BEEN, SHE COULD'VE BACKED OFF QUIETLY...
EVEN IF IT'S STOLEN, IT'S STILL THREE SAFE TILES.. AND TO BOOT, WITH THIS NEW FIVE-SIDED WAIT, THERE'RE PLENTY OF WINNING TILES LEFT!

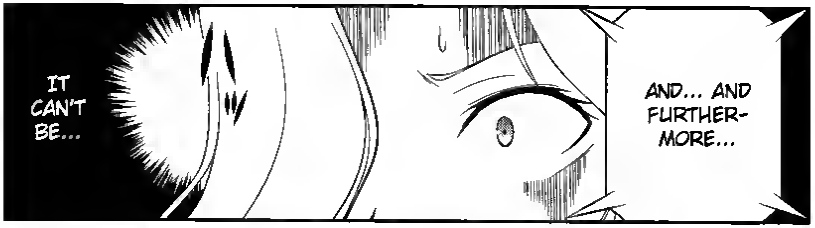




TSUMO.
パラララ
HUH ...?

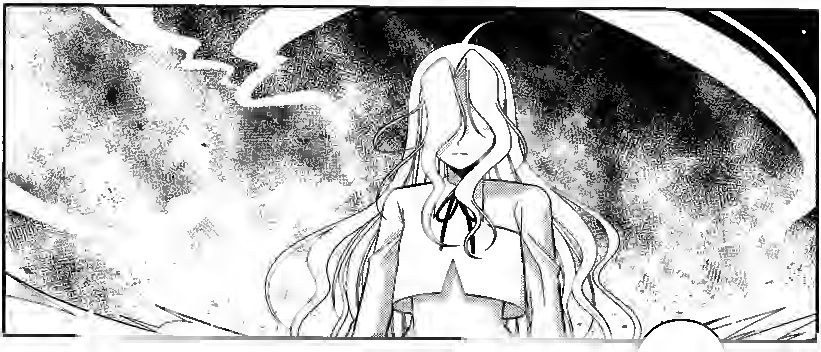

2100/
4000,
PLEASE.
MU-
RA
...!!
HA-
RA-
KIYOSUMI HIGH SCHOOL'S HARAMURA NODOKA... HER BRILLIANT WIN NEATLY SIDESTEPS TSURUGA AND KAZEKOSHI!!
AND FURTHER-MORE, SHE HAS WIDENED HER LEAD!!
Haramura Nodoka
126800 points

NOW AT LAST, WE CAN WELCOME THE FINAL ROUND OF THIS FIRST HANCHAN!!
. IS... IS IT THE FINAL ROUND ALREADY ?
I FEEL AS IF I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ...



*YAKITORI: A MAHJONG TERM THAT REFERS TO THOSE WHO WERE UNABLE TO WIN EVEN ONCE. SOMETIMES A "YAKITORI PENALTY" IS APPLIED

IF SHE CAN TAKE THIS FINAL ROUND, IT'LL BE A PERFECT GAME!

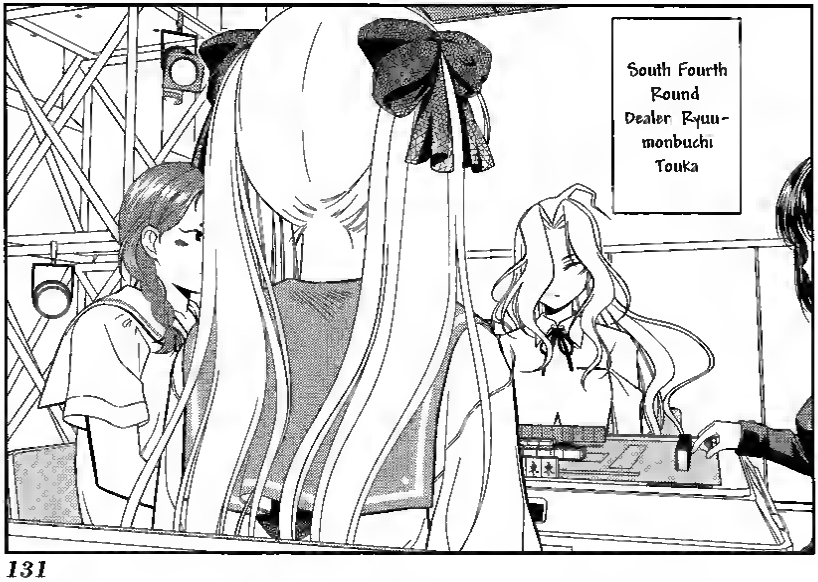


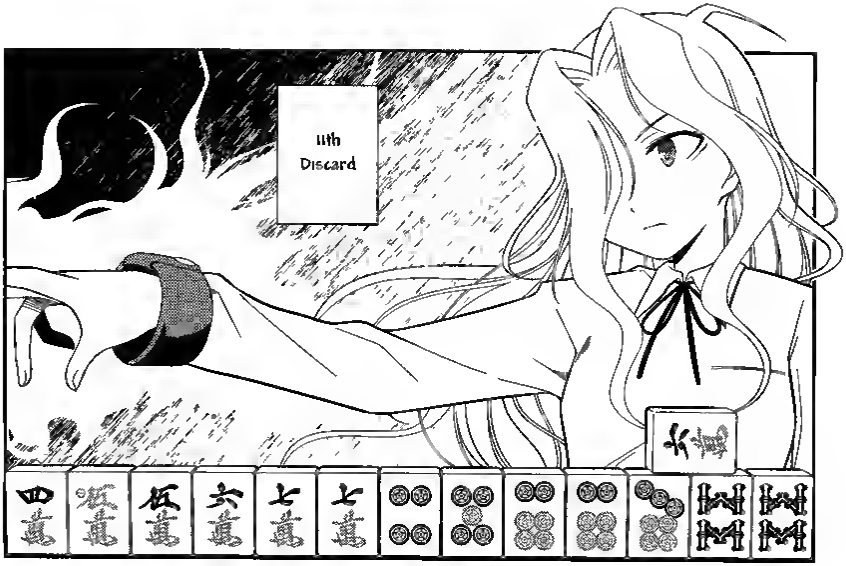
TOUKA
...
.....

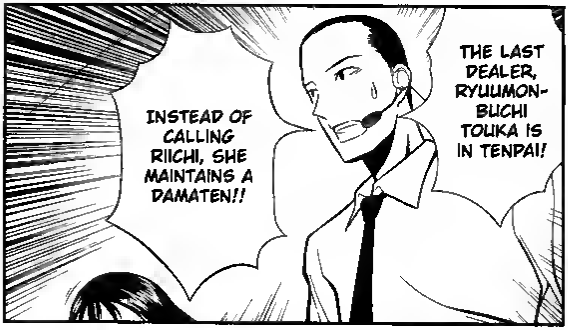
Round 31: Hindrance

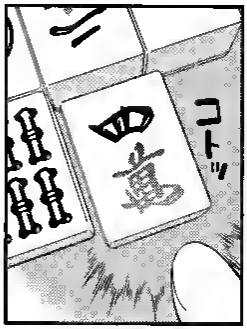
PE-
"PERFECT" ...!?
AS IF...
THIS IS BUT HARAMURA ON A WINNING STREAK!

YOU'VE LET YOUR PETTY JOKES GO TOO FAR ...!!!

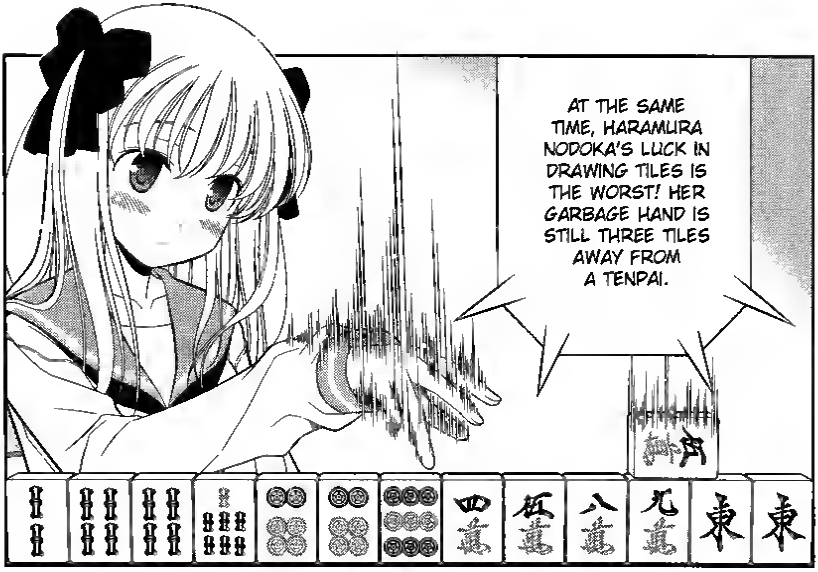

South Fourth Round
Dealer Ryuumonbuchi Touka

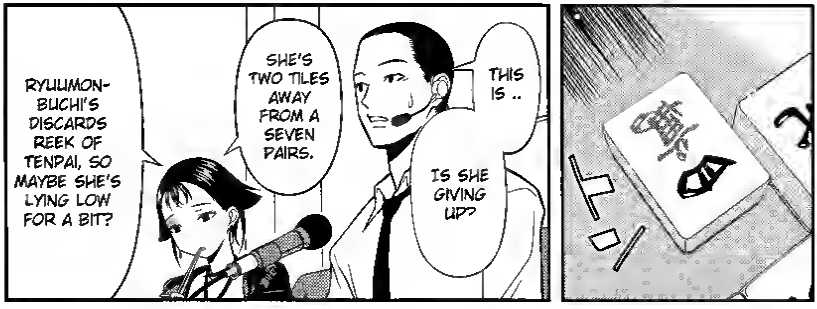

11th
Discard

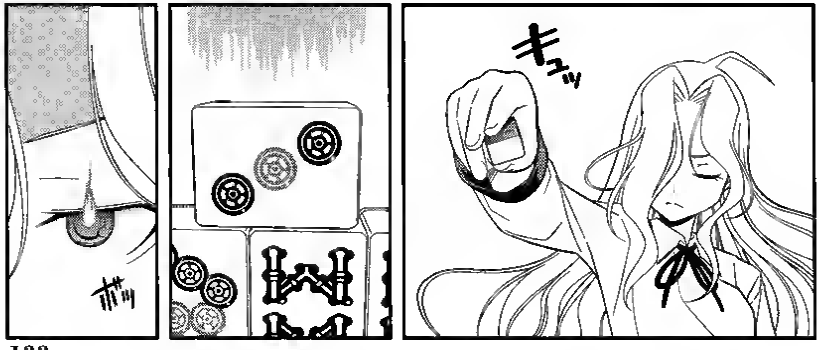

INSTEAD OF CALLING RIICHI, SHE MAINTAINS A DAMATEN!!
THE LAST DEALER, RYUUMON-BUCHI TOUKA IS IN TENPAI!



THEY'RE PROBABLY JUST EXCITED BY THE POSSI-BILITY OF A PERFECT GAME...
THEY'RE SO FOCUSED ON HARA-MURA'S GAME.
WILL THIS STRIKE HINDER HARAMURA NODOKA'S PERFECT GAME...!!?


AT THE SAME TIME, HARAMURA NODOKA'S LUCK IN DRAWING TILES IS THE WORST! HER GARBAGE HAND IS STILL THREE TILES AWAY FROM A TENPAI.

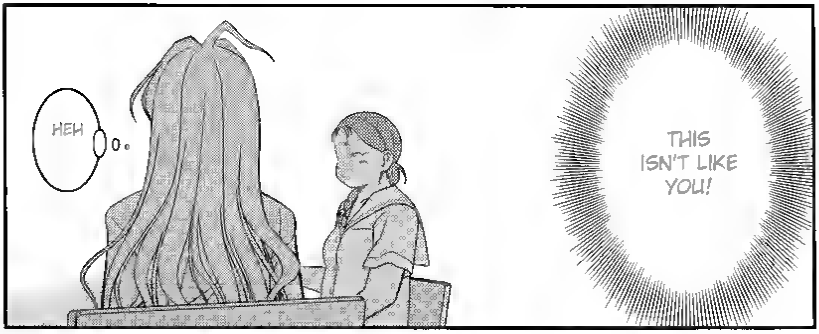

RYUUMON-BUCHI'S DISCARDS REEK OF TENPAI, SO MAYBE SHE'S LYING LOW FOR A BIT?
SHE'S TWO TILES AWAY FROM A SEVEN PAIRS.
THIS IS ..
IS SHE GIVING UP?


キュッ

I DECLARE RIICHI!!
トン
キャッ

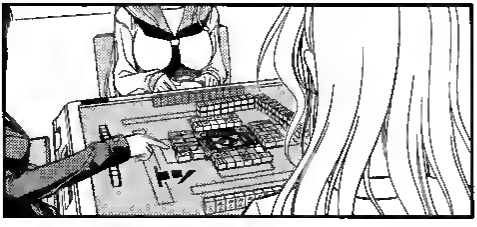
WHOA.
ISN'T IT THE DIGITAL STYLE TO WIN A 11600 POINT HAND WITHOUT CALLING RIICHI?
!?
TOUKA ...!?

I KNOW YOU WANT TO HINDER HARAMURA'S PERFECT GAME, BUT...
THE USUAL TOUKA WOULD FAVOR THE MORE EASILY WINABLE HIDDEN HAND OVER THE ADDED POINTS FROM RIICHI.


HEH
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU!

IF I HAD OBSTRUCTED THE PERFECT GAME WITH A HIDDEN HAND, WOULD NOT THE AUDIENCE 'BOO' ME OUT?
Only some of the crowd would forgive such a move!
IF THAT IS THE CASE...!
ピキーン
DON'T TELL ME...
!

I WILL STAND OUT MORE THAN HARAMURA !!
WINNING, DESPITE BETTING ON A RIICHI...

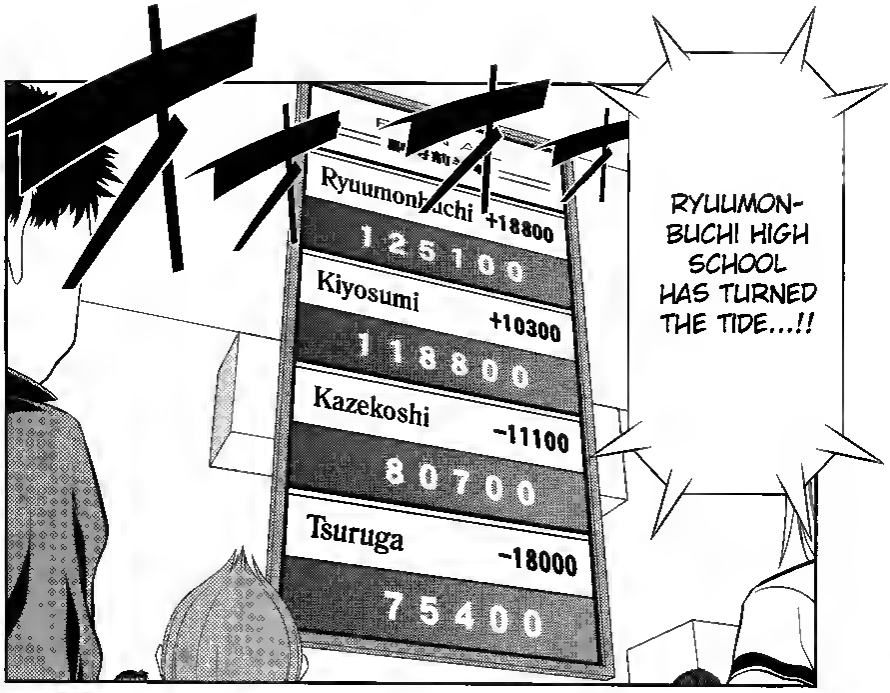


SHE THREW OUT HER DIGITAL STYLE JUST SO SHE COULD STAND OUT...!?

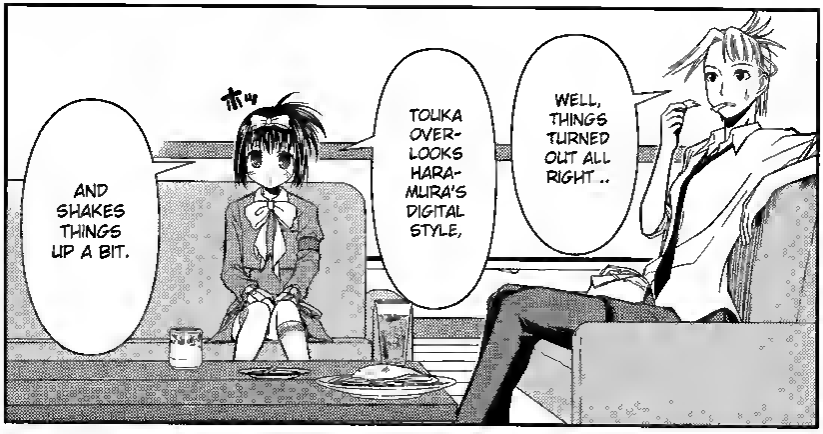
THERE ARE AS MANY QUITTERS AS EVER...

IT HAS ARRIVED!
TSUMO !!

I SHALL TAKE 8000 FROM EVERYONE!
!!
DE... DEALER'S BAIMAN!
MOREOVER, SHE HAS THWARTED HARAMURA NODOKA'S PERFECT GAME...!!

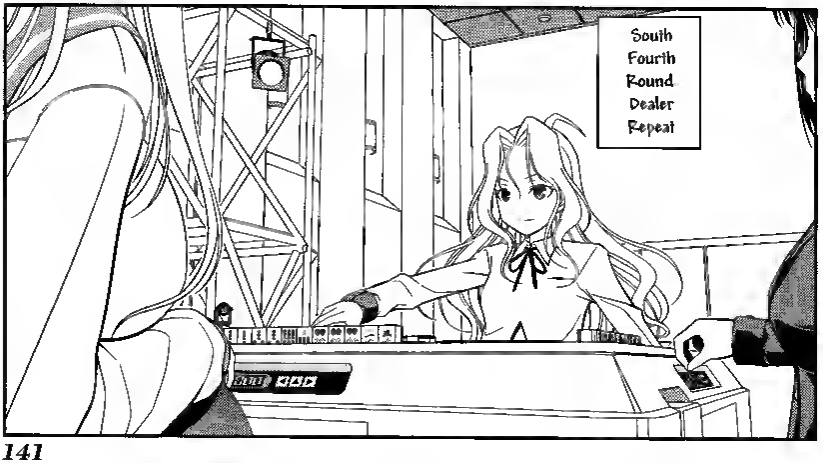

Ryuumonbuchi +18800
125100
Kiyosumi +10300
118800
Kazekoshi -11100
80700
Tsuruga -18000
75400
RYUUMON-BUCHI HIGH SCHOOL HAS TURNED THE TIDE...!!

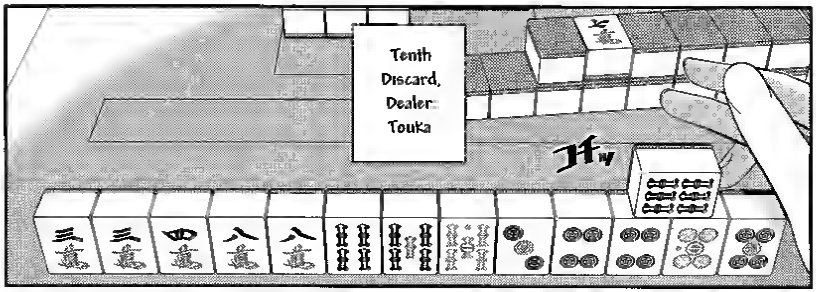
NOW,
WE MOVE INTO OVERTIME !!


WELL, THINGS TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT..
TOUKA OVERLOOKS HARAMURA'S DIGITAL STYLE,
ポッ
AND SHAKES THINGS UP A BIT.

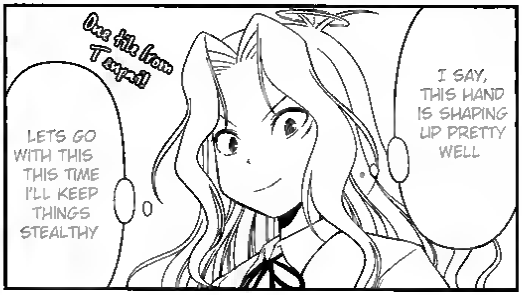
BUT WE KNOW IT AS FRIGHTENING
TOUKA HAS MOMENTS WHERE SHE IS FULLY REALIZED AS KOROMO'S COUSIN.

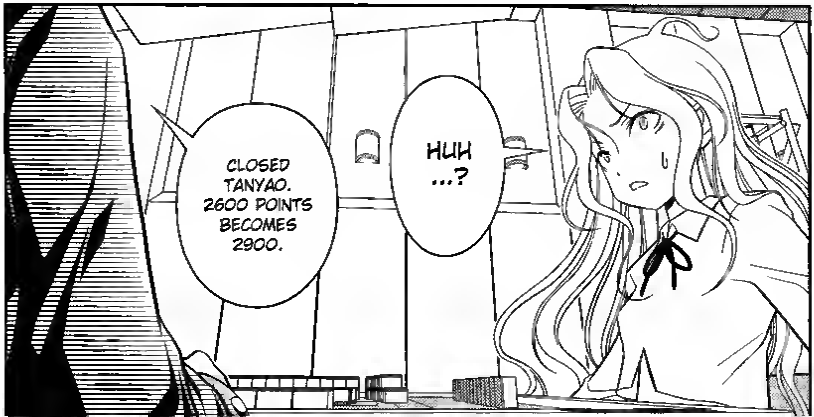
SOME WOULD SAY IT'S A SIGN OF WEAKNESS


South
Fourth
Round
Dealer
Repeat


Tenth Discard, Dealer: Touka

RON.


Once 4th, from Tsuyoshi
LET'S GO WITH THIS THIS TIME I'LL KEEP THINGS STEALTHY
I SAY, THIS HAND IS SHAPING UP PRETTY WELL


CLOSED TANYAO. 2600 POINTS BECOMES 2900.
HUH ...?

JUST WHEN DID THIS ...!?
A RIICHI !?
WAS TOUKA SO CARELESS THAT SHE WOULD OVERLOOK A RIICHI?
NO WAY...
THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT...
TSURUGA ACADEMY'S TOUYOKO MOMOKO HAS STOLEN 2900 POINTS FROM THE ELITE RYUUMONBUCHI !!
WITH THIS...
WHAT ON EARTH JUST HAPPENED ...!?

THE FIRST HANCHAN ENDS, YES?
Tsuruga Academy First Year, Touyoko Momoko
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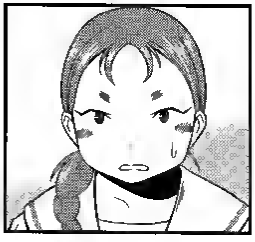
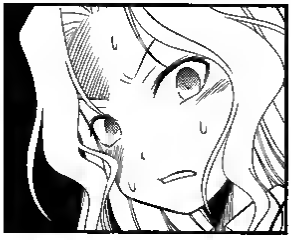
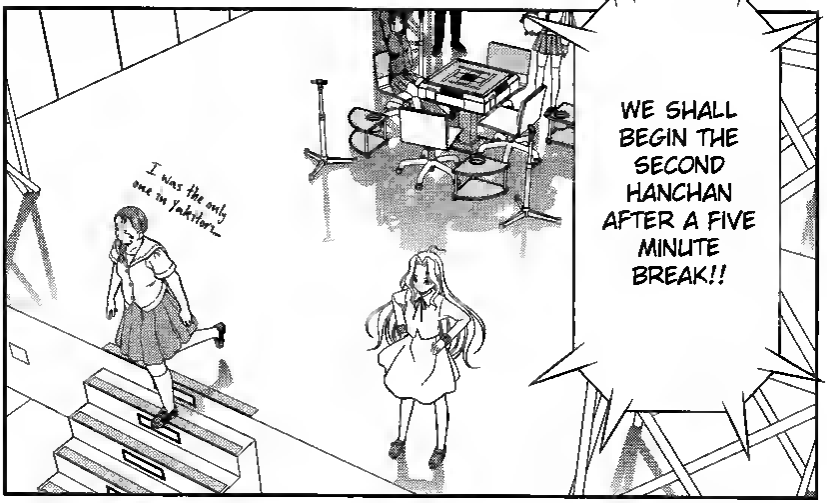
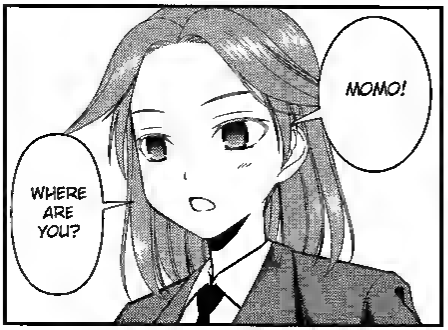
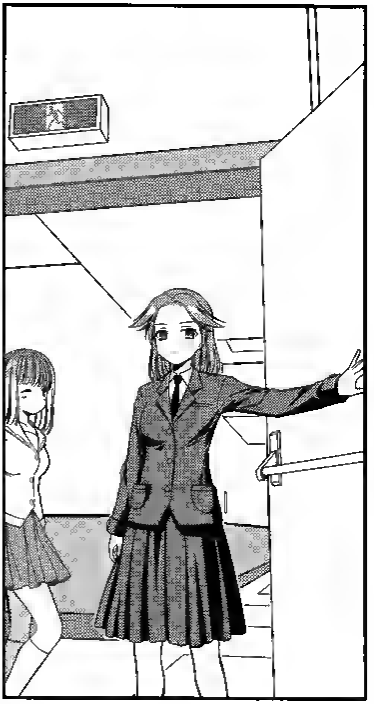
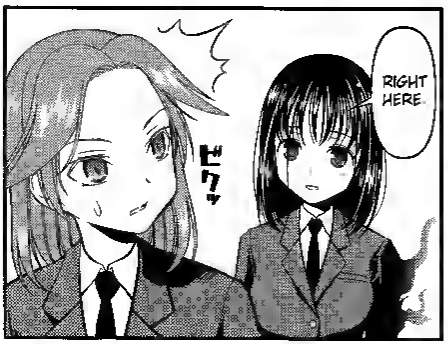





I was the only one in Yakitori...
WE SHALL BEGIN THE SECOND HANCHAN AFTER A FIVE MINUTE BREAK!!


MOMO!
WHERE ARE YOU?




RIGHT HERE
ビク

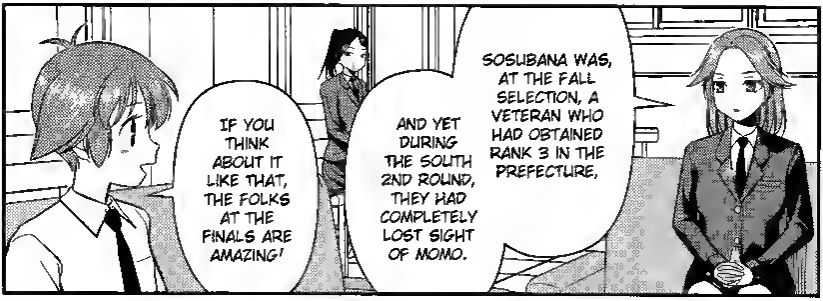
THE FINALS ARE JUST AS DIFFICULT AS I'D IMAGINED.
IT TOOK TOO LONG TO DISAPPEAR.
WILL YOU MANAGE?
YES.
THIS WILL BE MY VINDICATION TOWARDS THOSE UPPERCLASSMEN WHO DISMISSED MY PALE, SHADOWY SELF.

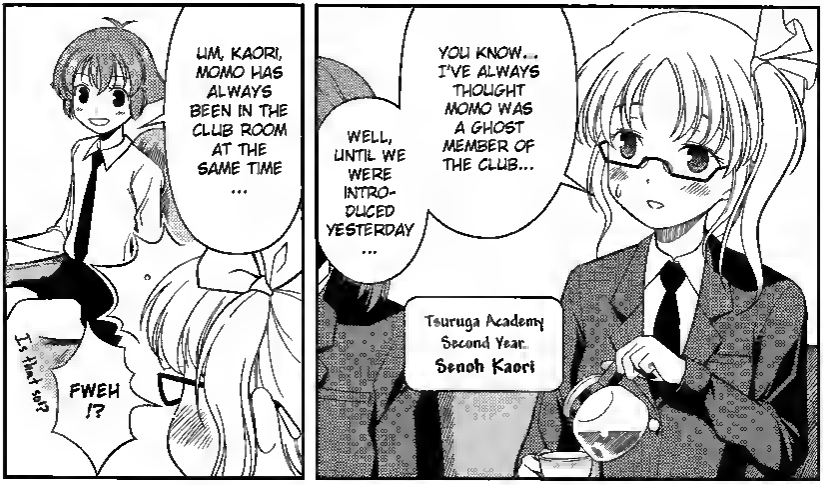
MY RIICHI IS THE SAME AS A SILENT TENPAI,
I WILL NOT PLAY INTO ANYONE ELSE'S HANDS,
AND EVEN IF I DO PUT DOWN SOMEONE'S WINNING TILE, THEY WILL MERELY ENTER FURITEN.
I WILL CEASE TO EXIST.

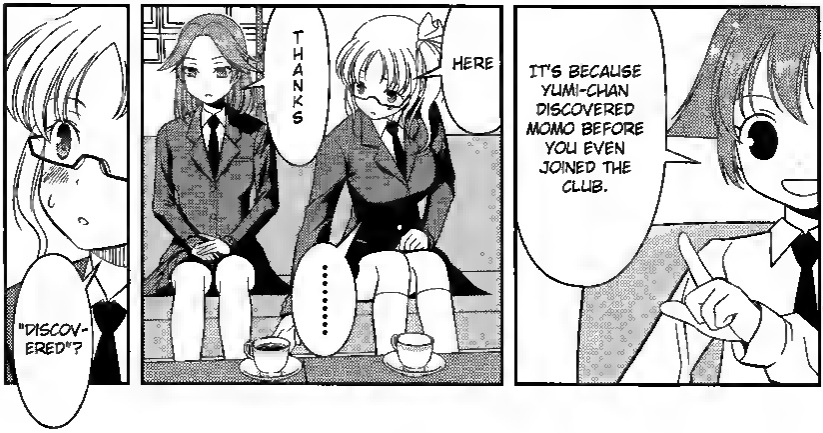
FROM HERE ON,
THE BATTLEFIELD IS UNDER "STEALTH MOMO'S" CONTROL!!

Round 32: Upperclassman

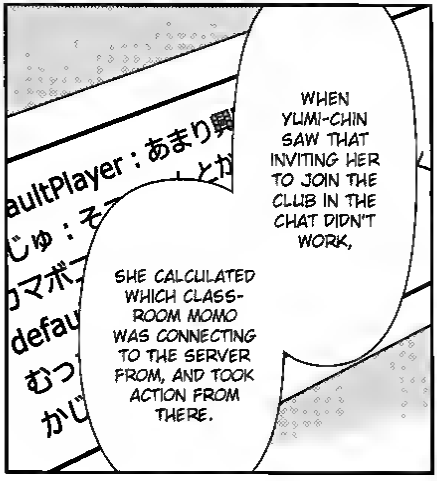
Tsuruga Aca
Waiting
WELCOME BACK~
I'M BACK.
HOW WAS MOMO DOING?
Tsuruga Academy Third Year, Kanbara Satomi
SEEMED LIKE SHE WAS GRADUALLY DISAPPEAR-ING
FINALLY!
Tsuruga Academy Second Year, Tsuyama Mutsuki
SPEAKING OF WHICH, SHE TOOK HER TIME AT THE SOSUBANA HIGH MATCH AS WELL, RIGHT?
Tsuruga Academy Third Year Kajiki Yumi


SOSUBANA WAS, AT THE FALL SELECTION, A VETERAN WHO HAD OBTAINED RANK 3 IN THE PREFECTURE,
AND YET DURING THE SOUTH 2ND ROUND, THEY HAD COMPLETELY LOST SIGHT OF MOMO.
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT LIKE THAT, THE FOLKS AT THE FINALS ARE AMAZING!


YOU KNOW... I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT MOMO WAS A GHOST MEMBER OF THE CLUB...
WELL, UNTIL WE WERE INTRO-DUCED YESTERDAY ...
Tsuruga Academy Second Year. Senoh Kaori
UM, KAORI, MOMO HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN THE CLUB ROOM AT THE SAME TIME ...
FWEH !?
I-Is that so?


IT'S BECAUSE YUMI-CHAN DISCOVERED MOMO BEFORE YOU EVEN JOINED THE CLUB.
HERE
THANKS
.....
"DISCOV-ERED"?

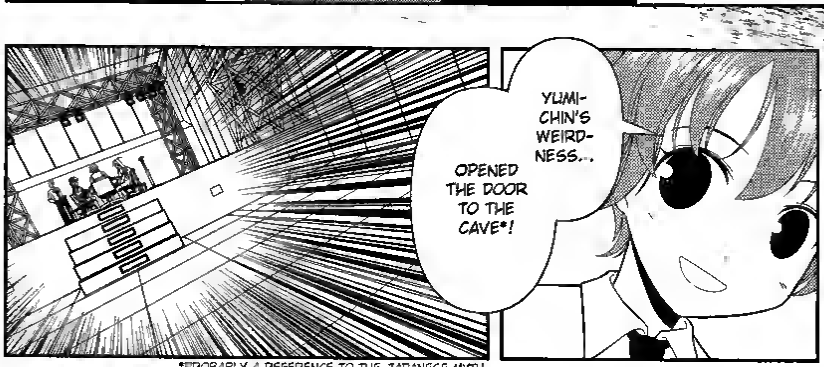
I GUESS IT WAS EXACTLY A MONTH AGO,
WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH MEMBERS, AND WE WERE PANICKING AS THE DEADLINE FOR TEAM BATTLE ENTRIES DREW NEAR.
SINCE WE WERE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, YOU WERE ALREADY A GUARANTEED MEMBER, KAORI.
SO WE ONLY NEEDED ONE MORE PERSON.
WE TRIED HOLDING SEVERAL DIFFERENT EVENTS TO INVITE MORE MEMBERS.
ONE OF THOSE EVENTS WAS TO RECRUIT PLAYERS THAT SHOWED UP ON OUR ONLINE MAHJONG SERVER.
THAT'S WHERE WE MET MOMO, FIDDLING AROUND ON THE SERVER.


WHEN YUMI-CHIN SAW THAT INVITING HER TO JOIN THE CLUB IN THE CHAT DIDN'T WORK,
SHE CALCULATED WHICH CLASSROOM MOMO WAS CONNECTING TO THE SERVER FROM, AND TOOK ACTION FROM THERE.

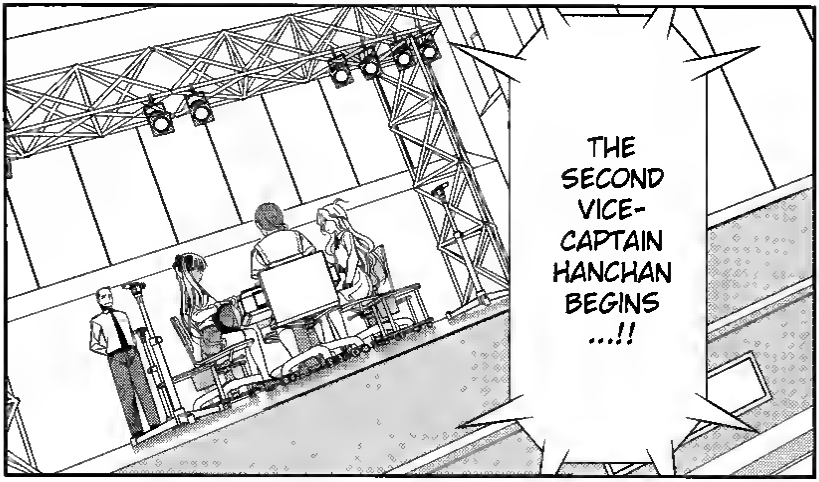
YUMI-CHIN GOT REEEALLY INTERESTED IN MOMO'S PLAYING STYLE AND PERSONALITY.
……

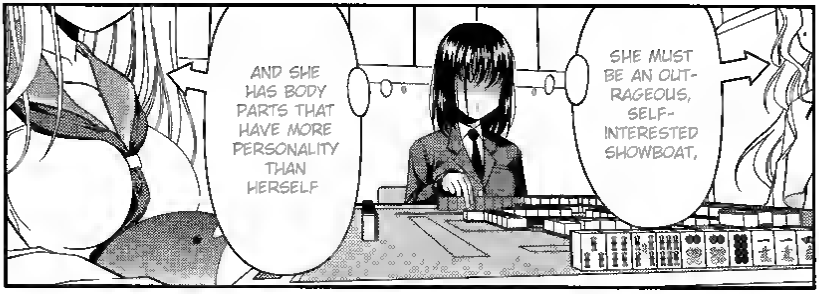
THEN YUMI-CHIN BARGED RIGHT INTO CLASS 1-A.
WOW... YOU MEAN THAT UPROAR WAS MS. KAJIKI?
I MARCHED RIGHT INTO THE CLASS-ROOM, BUT I COULD NOT LOCATE MY TARGET.
EVEN THOUGH SHE HAD TO BE THERE!
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, MERELY SEARCHING FOR MOMO, WHO IS A GOLD MEDALIST IN BEING A PALE SHADOW WAS A FRUITLESS ENDEAVOR.

I'D LIKE YOU TO JOIN OUR CLUB!!
WITHOUT THINKING, I STARTED YELLING.
BUT, HOWEVER Y'LOOK AT IT, THAT WAS WHAT GOT THE LITTLE PRINCESS INTERESTED IN US.
.....
スッ
YOU'RE A FUNNY ONE.
!
スッ

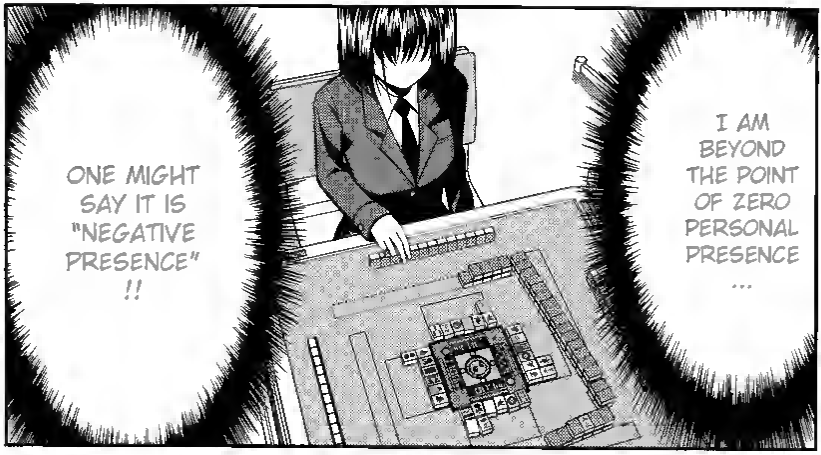


*PROBABLY A REFERENCE TO THE JAPANESE MYTH OF WHEN AMATERASU HID HERSELF IN A CAVE

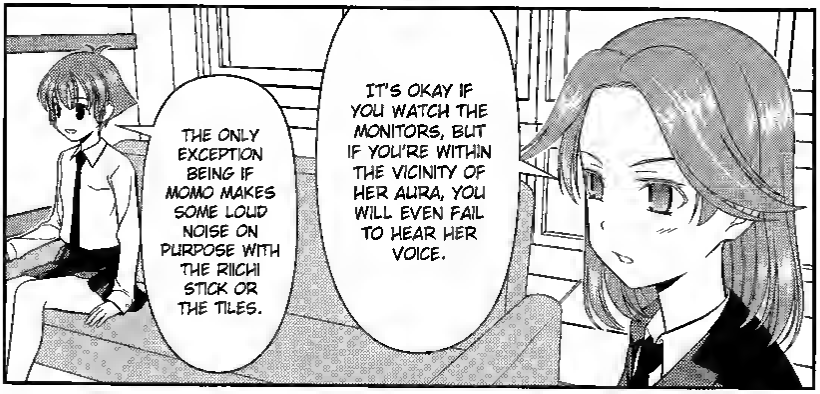

THE SECOND VICE-CAPTAIN HANCHAN BEGINS ...!!

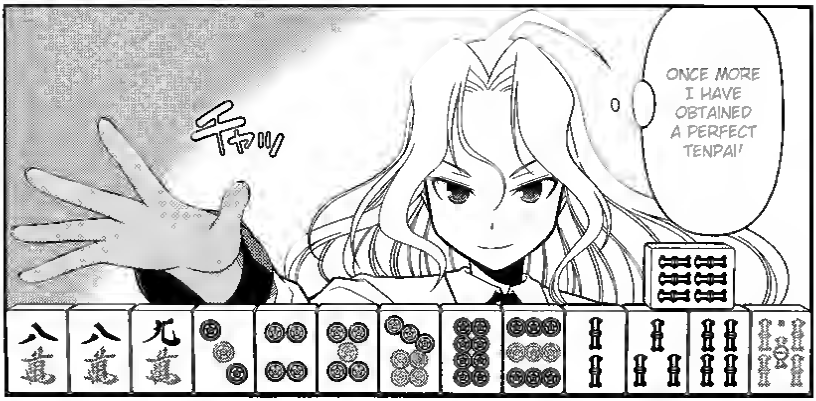

AND SHE HAS BODY PARTS THAT HAVE MORE PERSONALITY THAN HERSELF
SHE MUST BE AN OUT-RAGEOUS, SELF-INTERESTED SHOWBOAT,

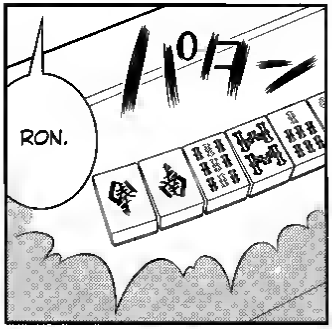
Tsuruga Academy First Year, Touyoko Momoko
THEN THERE IS THE ANTITHESIS OF SUCH PEOPLE.


I AM BEYOND THE POINT OF ZERO PERSONAL PRESENCE ...
ONE MIGHT SAY IT IS "NEGATIVE PRESENCE" !!

THAT NEGATIVE SPACE WILL EVEN ENFOLD THIS DISCARD!!


IT'S OKAY IF YOU WATCH THE MONITORS, BUT IF YOU'RE WITHIN THE VICINITY OF HER AURA, YOU WILL EVEN FAIL TO HEAR HER VOICE.
THE ONLY EXCEPTION BEING IF MOMO MAKES SOME LOUD NOISE ON PURPOSE WITH THE RIICHI STICK OR THE TILES.


ONCE MORE I HAVE OBTAINED A PERFECT TENPAI!


RON.

ARE YOU SURE THAT'S OKAY?
THE DORA ...

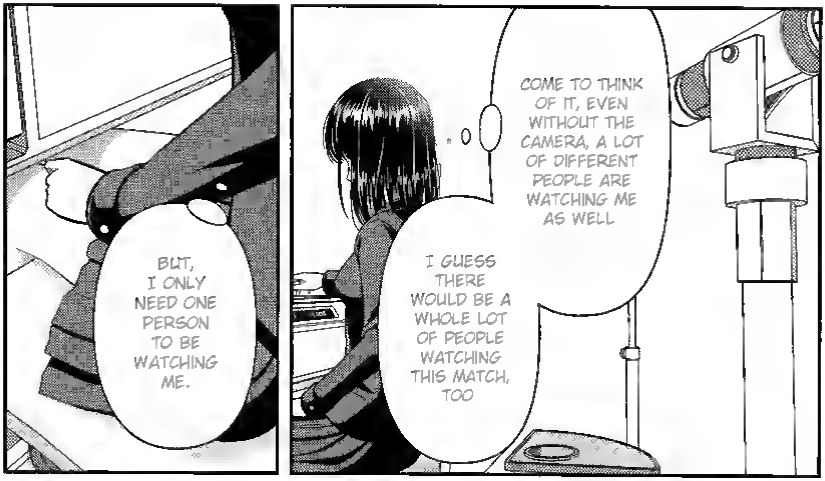
I DECLARE RIICHI!

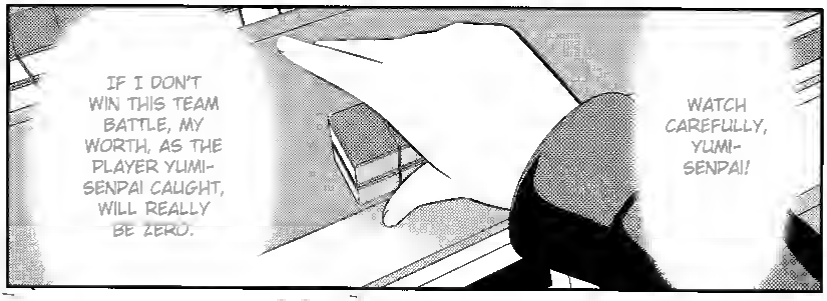
RIICHI, ONE-SHOT, AND A DORA...

WHA ...!?

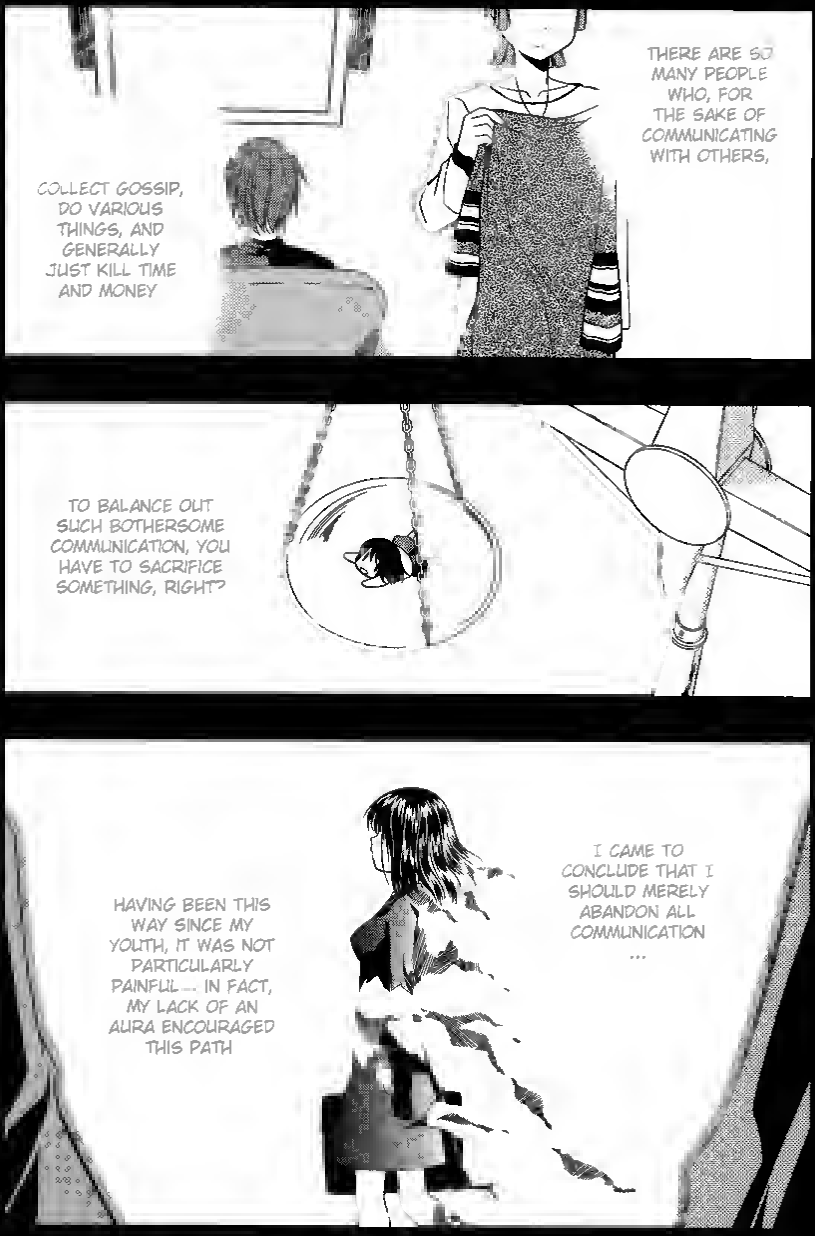
5200 POINTS !!
ユラッ

SHE HAD ALREADY BEEN IN RIICHI...!?
HEH, I GUESS EVEN THE GREAT TOUKA COULDN'T HEAR MOMO'S VOICE IN THE END!
HA HA HA
I GUESS SO?
YOU! HAVE YOU BEEN PROPERLY VOCALISING THE RIICHI ANNOUNCE-MENTS!?
キュイ


BUT, I ONLY NEED ONE PERSON TO BE WATCHING ME.
I GUESS THERE WOULD BE A WHOLE LOT OF PEOPLE WATCHING THIS MATCH, TOO
COME TO THINK OF IT, EVEN WITHOUT THE CAMERA, A LOT OF DIFFERENT PEOPLE ARE WATCHING ME AS WELL


IF I DON'T WIN THIS TEAM BATTLE, MY WORTH, AS THE PLAYER YUMI-SENPAI CAUGHT, WILL REALLY BE ZERO.
WATCH CAREFULLY, YUMI-SENPAI!

UNLESS I DID SOMETHING, LIKE SINGING OR DANCING, I WAS THE PALE, SHADOWY CHILD THAT NO ONE WOULD EVEN NOTICE.
Can you just ignore me like this!?
What, what are you ignoring!?
IT WAS OFTEN SAID, EVEN SINCE MY CHILD-HOOD, THAT I HAD NO PRESENCE


THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE WHO, FOR THE SAKE OF COMMUNICATING WITH OTHERS,
COLLECT GOSSIP, DO VARIOUS THINGS, AND GENERALLY JUST KILL TIME AND MONEY
TO BALANCE OUT SUCH BOTHERSOME COMMUNICATION, YOU HAVE TO SACRIFICE SOMETHING, RIGHT?
I CAME TO CONCLUDE THAT I SHOULD MERELY ABANDON ALL COMMUNICATION ...
HAVING BEEN THIS WAY SINCE MY YOUTH, IT WAS NOT PARTICULARLY PAINFUL... IN FACT, MY LACK OF AN AURA ENCOURAGED THIS PATH

IS THERE REALLY SOMEONE WHO'D YELL IN FRONT OF SO MANY PEOPLE TO SEEK ME OUT?
SO, FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME...
SOMEONE WHOM NO ONE CAN FIND, WHO CANNOT EVEN EXIST,
WHAT A STRANGE PERSON...

... AND THAT IS WHY I WORK HARD.

I WILL
DO MY BEST!
IT ISN'T BAD TO SPEND TIME ON COMMUNICATION

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN IT IS EVEN FUN TO DO SO.

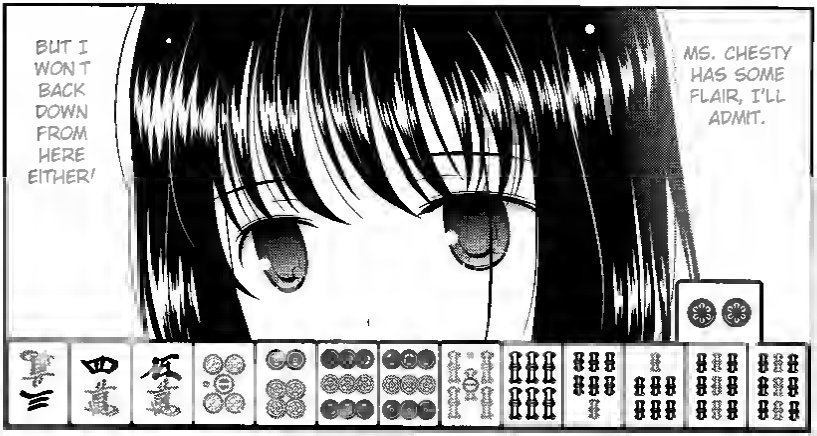
AND THE PERSON WHO TAUGHT ME THAT

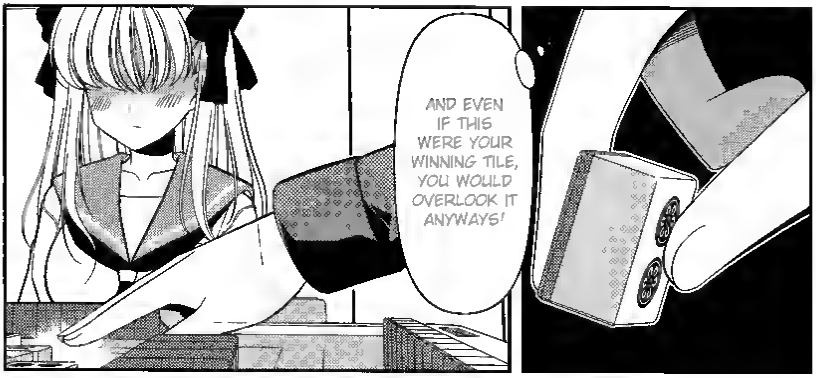
IS YOU, YUMI-SENPAI!

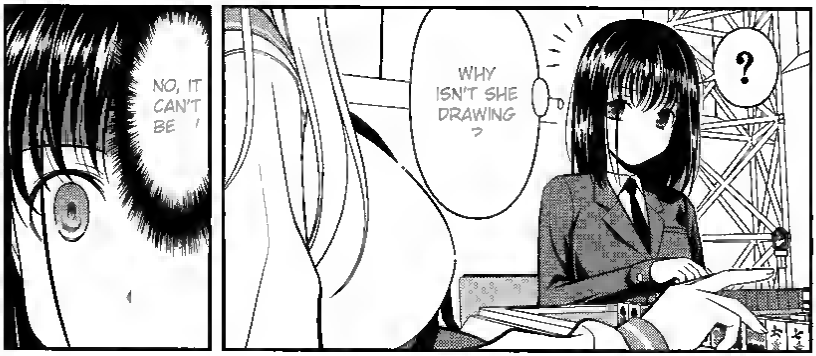
Round 33: Conclusion

チャッ
RIICHI!

HARA-
MURA
NODOKA'S
RIICHI!!
WILL THE
SECOND
HANCHAN
FOLLOW
THE FLOW
OF THE
FIRST?


BUT I WON'T BACK DOWN FROM HERE EITHER!
MS. CHESTY HAS SOME FLAIR, I'LL ADMIT.

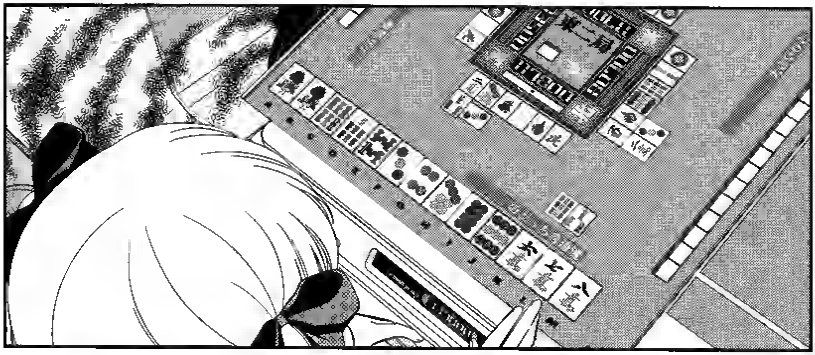

AND EVEN IF THIS WERE YOUR WINNING TILE, YOU WOULD OVERLOOK IT ANYWAYS!

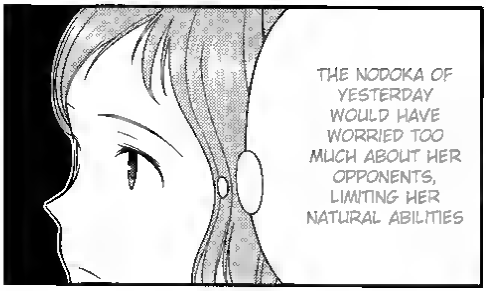

NO, IT CAN'T BE!
WHY ISN'T SHE DRAWING?
?

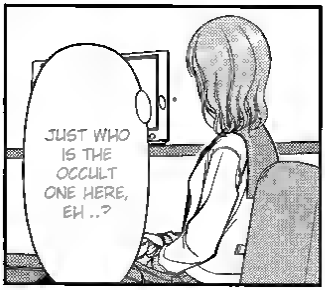
WHA
...?
TTA...
STEALTH MODE MOMO...
WAS DEFEATED ...!?

RON.
8000 POINTS.
!!

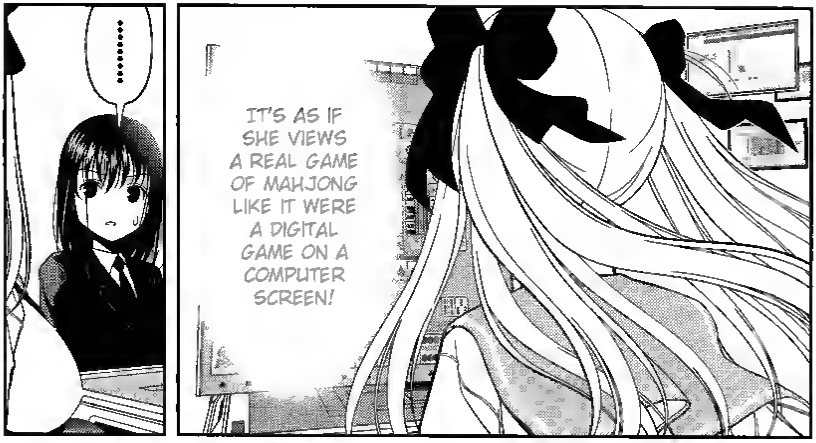
THAT GIRL LOOKS AS IF SHE MIGHT BE THINKING,
"THIS CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE HAPPENED"!
THE ENEMY LOOKS PRETTY SURPRISED, FOR HAVING DISCARDED SUCH A DANGEROUS TILE!
BEING ABLE TO SEE, NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE .
?
YOU CAN... SEE MY DISCARDS? BUT YOU SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO...
I CAN SEE EVERY-THING JUST AS CLEAR AS DAY . .
SUCH HOCUS POCUS CANNOT POSSIBLY EXIST.
!!




THE NODOKA OF YESTERDAY WOULD HAVE WORRIED TOO MUCH ABOUT HER OPPONENTS, LIMITING HER NATURAL ABILITIES

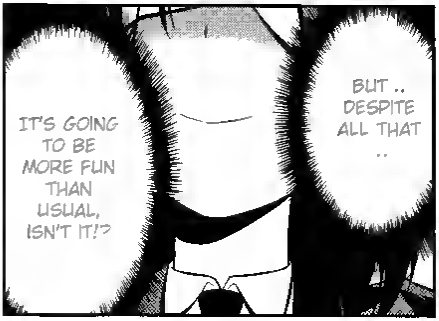

JUST WHO IS THE OCCULT ONE HERE, EH ..?

EVEN WHEN BEING CHALLENGED AND IN FRONT OF SAKI, SHE HAS BECOME ABLE TO PLAY WITHOUT THINKING OF OTHERS.
BUT SHE TRANSFORMED DURING TRAINING...


.....
IT'S AS IF SHE VIEWS A REAL GAME OF MAHJONG LIKE IT WERE A DIGITAL GAME ON A COMPUTER SCREEN!

AUGH~
THEN IT'S GOING TO BE A ROUGH GAME AGAINST HER?

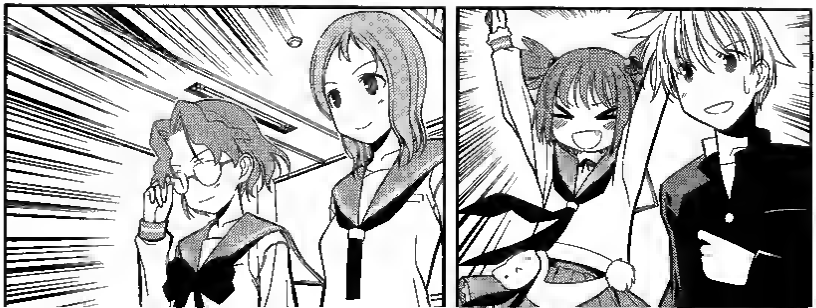
WHETHER SOMEONE HAS A PRESENCE OR DOESN'T.
IS THERE REALLY NO MEANING TO IT?

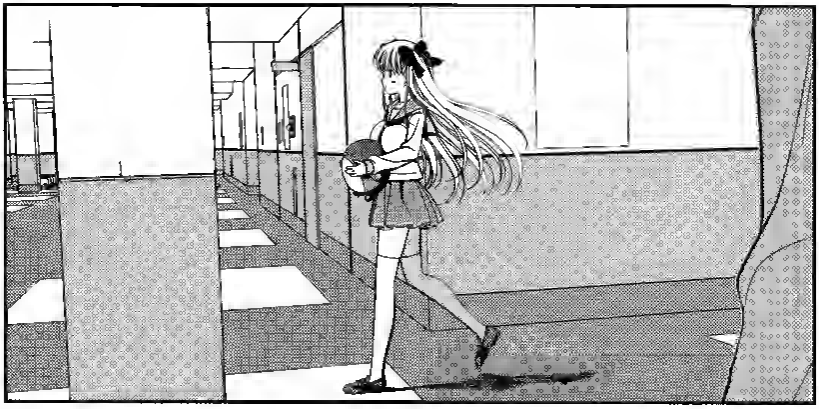

BUT .. DESPITE ALL THAT ..
IT'S GOING TO BE MORE FUN THAN USUAL, ISN'T IT!?

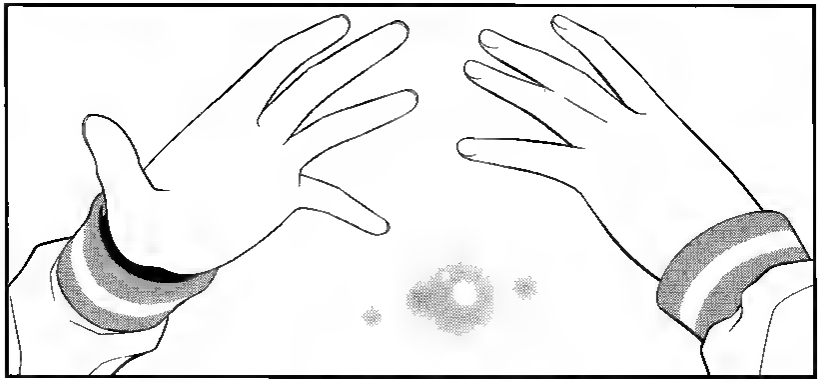
THE VICE-CAPTAIN BATTLE HAS ENDED ...!!
THE SECOND HANCHAN WAS TSURUGA'S TOIYOKO AND KIYOSUMI'S HARAMURA! THESE TWO LADIES' INDIVIDUAL BATTLES WERE SIMILAR TO EACH OTHER.
BUT WITH THE ENDGAME CLOSING IN, RYUUMONBUCHI AND KAZE-KOSHI WILL BE PUTTING UP A FIGHT!
WE HAVE ARRIVED AT AN AMAZING DISTRIBUTION OF POINTS HERE, FOLKS!!

AND FINALLY, THE TIME HAS COME ...
前将後半戦
Kiyosumi +6400
114900
Tsuruga +9200
102600
Ryuumonbuchi -5100
101200
Kazekoshi -10500
81300
LAST YEAR'S TOP TWO SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY MOWED DOWN OUT OF NOWHERE BY TWO NAMELESS SCHOOLS...

I'M OFF!
FOR THE CAPTAIN'S BATTLE!!

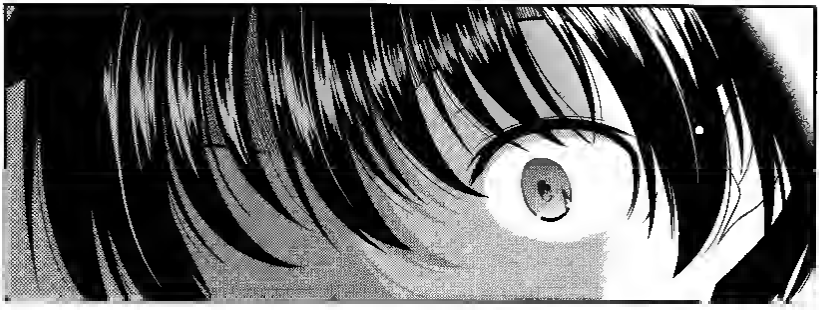


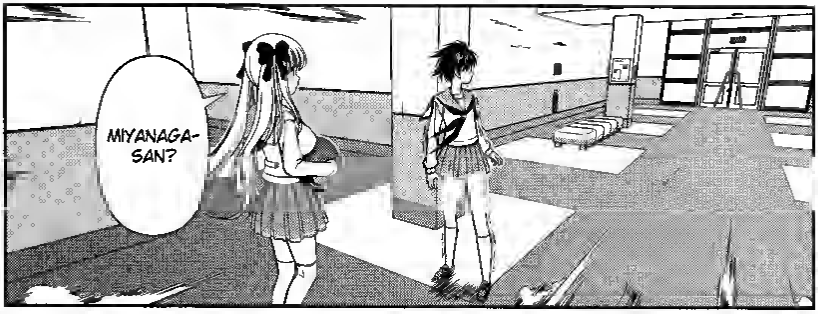




THE CAPTAIN BATTLE ...
FROM TSURUGA ACADEMY COMES THE THIRD YEAR, KAJIKI YUMI!!
FROM OUR CURRENT LEADER ON THE BOARD, KIYOSUMI HIGH SCHOOL...
HARAMURA NODOKA HAS PASSED THE BATON TO YET ANOTHER FRESHMAN,
MIYA-NAGA SAKI!

ヴァァ
KAZEKOSHI GIRLS' SECOND YEAR, IKEDA KANA!!
FILLING IN THE ROLE OF CAPTAIN FOR THE SCHOOL MADE FAMOUS FOR ITS WINNING STREAK...
オオオ
THAT'S RIGHT...
AND THEN, THERE IS THE PLAYER WHO CAN BE CALLED IKEDA'S PREDESTINED OPPONENT.




MIYANAGA-SAN?

NOT AGAIN ...
THIS FEELING ...!!

コツ
コツ
RYUUMON-BUCHI HIGH SCHOOL'S SECOND YEAR...
WILL LAST YEAR'S MVP SHOW US THOSE DIVINELY TOUCHED TILES OF BATTLE AGAIN!?
THE LEGEND WHO HAS SET THE RECORD FOR MOST POINTS COLLECTED IN ANY ONE INTER-HIGH MATCH!!

AMAE
...
KOROMO
!!

NOW, THE CURTAIN IS RAISED FOR THE BATTLE OF THE CAPTAINS ...!!

Saki, Volume Extra
A Fluffy Koromo, and the Tartar Sauce
Ten months prior, the day before the inter-high meet, Tokyo...
IT'S THE CAPITAL, IT'S THE CREEK, IT'S TOKYO!
SUCH A MAG-NIFICENT VIEW!
AH, SHAD-DUP
AND AREN'T THERE A LOT OF SKY-SCRAPERS !?
わ～
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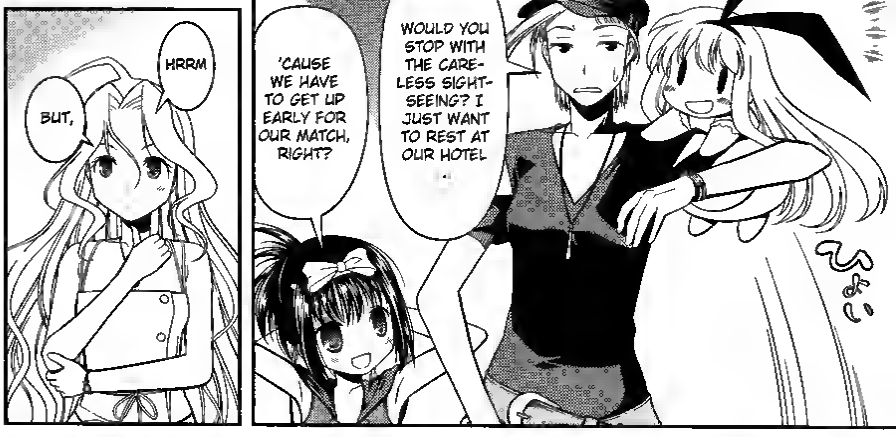
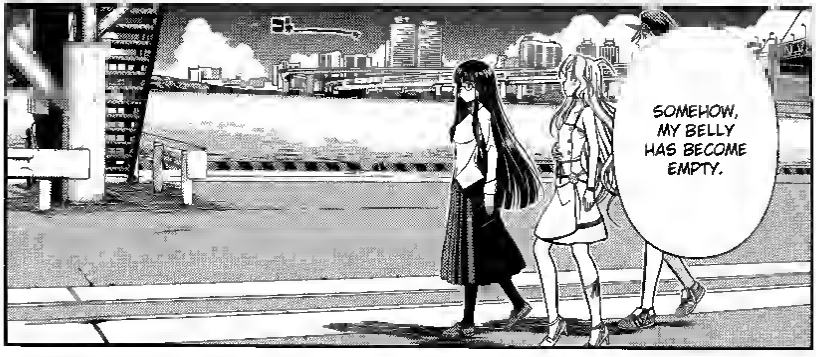
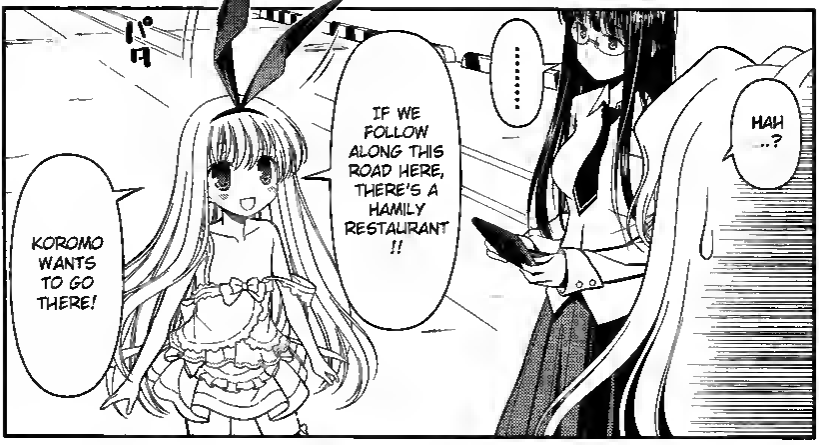
ぴょこ～

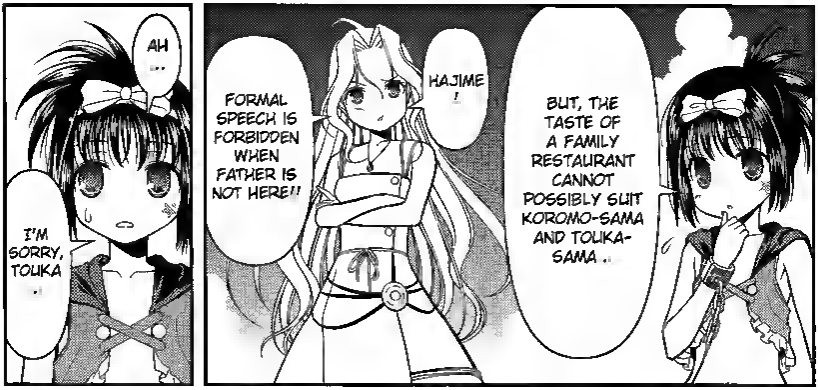
TN: CAPITAL = KOUTO, CREEK = KOUTO WITH DIFFERENT KANJI. KOROMO BEING CUTESY AGAIN.


HRRM
BUT,
'CAUSE WE HAVE TO GET UP EARLY FOR OUR MATCH, RIGHT?
WOULD YOU STOP WITH THE CARELESS SIGHTSEEING? I JUST WANT TO REST AT OUR HOTEL
ぴとっ



TN: KOROMO PRONOUNCES "FAMILY" INCORRECTLY.

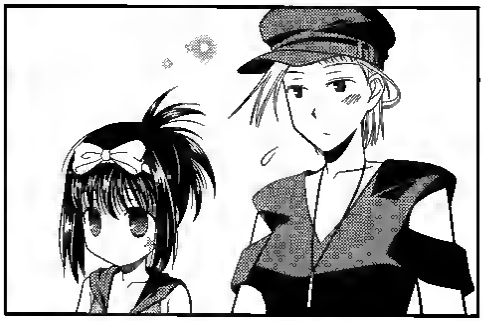

KOROMO WANTS TO GO THERE!
IF WE FOLLOW ALONG THIS ROAD HERE, THERE'S A HAMILY RESTAURANT !!
.....
HAH ...?

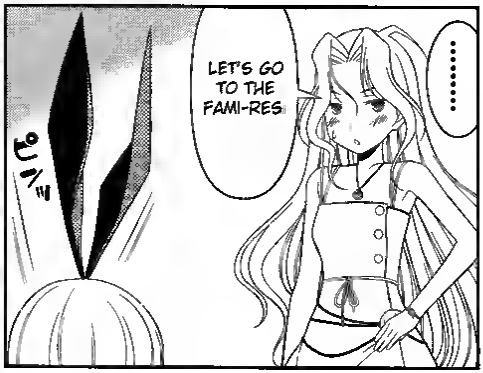

AH ...
I'M SORRY, TOUKA .
FORMAL SPEECH IS FORBIDDEN WHEN FATHER IS NOT HERE!!
HAJIME !
BUT, THE TASTE OF A FAMILY RESTAURANT CANNOT POSSIBLY SUIT KOROMO-SAMA AND TOUKA-SAMA ..

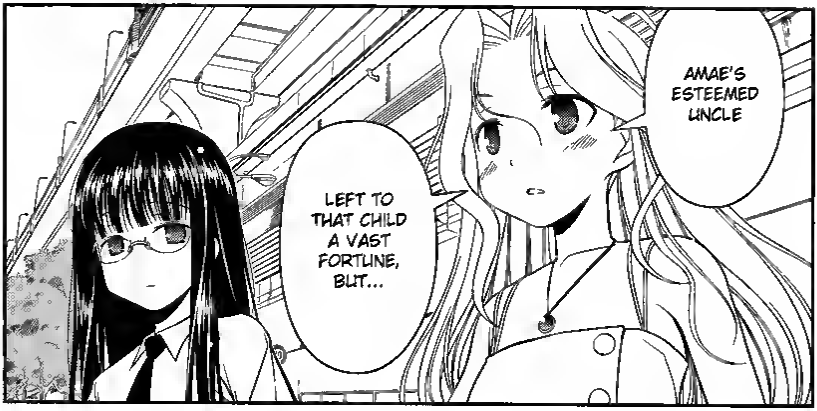
THERE WAS AN OCCASION WHEN I WAS TAKEN TO ONE WITH THEM
WHILE MY DEAR PARENTS WERE STILL ON THIS PLANE,

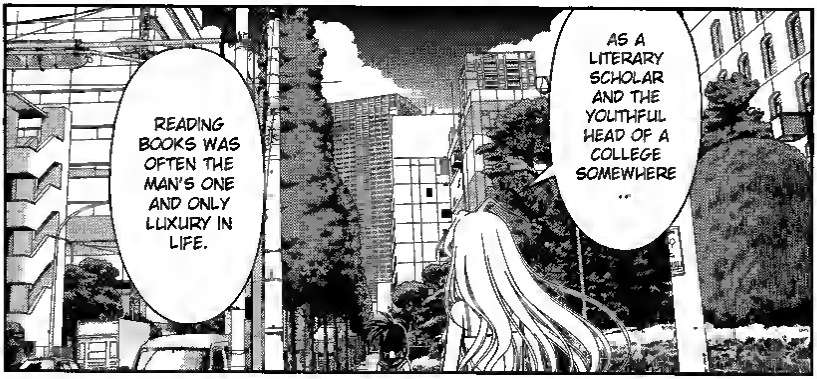
THE HAMBURGER AND FRIED SHRIMP SET I GOT THAT DAY...
I HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FORGET THAT TASTE.

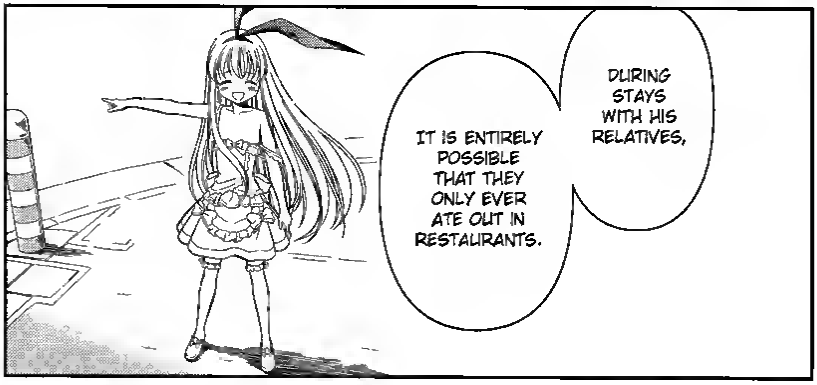
YIPPEE!




LET'S GO TO THE FAMI-RES
.....

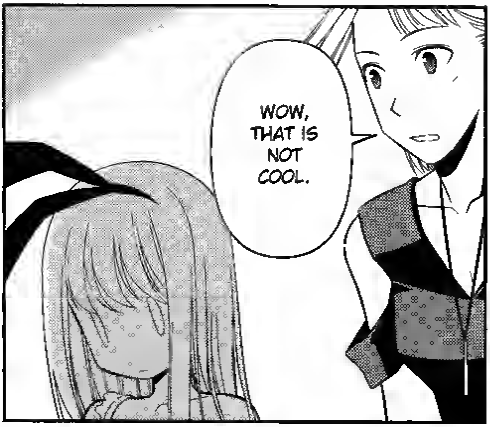

AMAE'S ESTEEMED UNCLE
LEFT TO THAT CHILD A VAST FORTUNE, BUT...

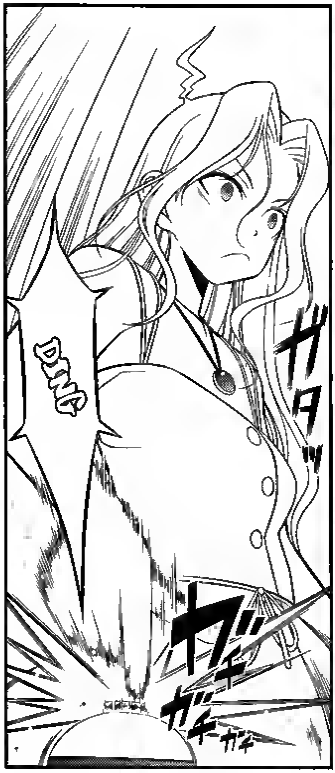

AS A LITERARY SCHOLAR AND THE YOUTHFUL HEAD OF A COLLEGE SOMEWHERE ..
READING BOOKS WAS OFTEN THE MAN'S ONE AND ONLY LUXURY IN LIFE.


DURING STAYS WITH HIS RELATIVES,
IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT THEY ONLY EVER ATE OUT IN RESTAURANTS.

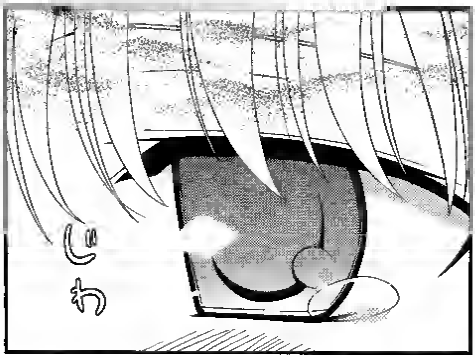
WE'D LIKE A NON-SMOKING TABLE FOR FIVE.
WEL-COME~
I AIN'T THAT SMALL!
ALSO, COULD YOU PLEASE GRAB A CHILDREN'S SEAT FOR US?
IT'S HERE!
YOUR HAM-BURGER AND FRIED SHRIMP SET.

THERE'S ONLY A DROP OF TARTAR SAUCE.


WOW, THAT IS NOT COOL.


DIND
ガタッ
ガガガ

DID KOROMO ...
DO SOMETHING BAD TO DESERVE THIS...?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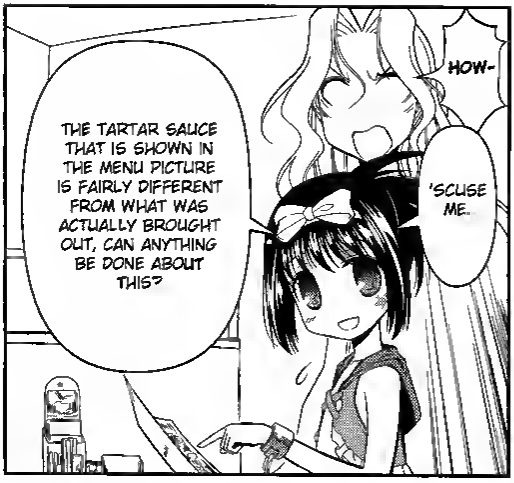
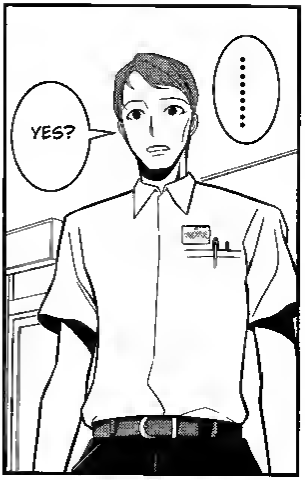
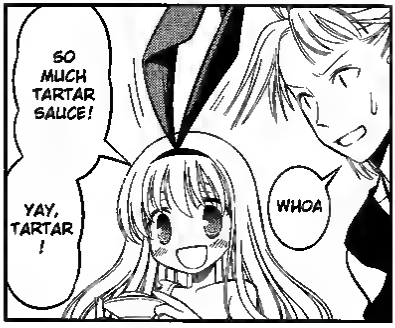

THE TARTAR SAUCE THAT IS SHOWN IN THE MENU PICTURE IS FAIRLY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT WAS ACTUALLY BROUGHT OUT, CAN ANYTHING BE DONE ABOUT THIS?
HOW-
'SCUSE ME.

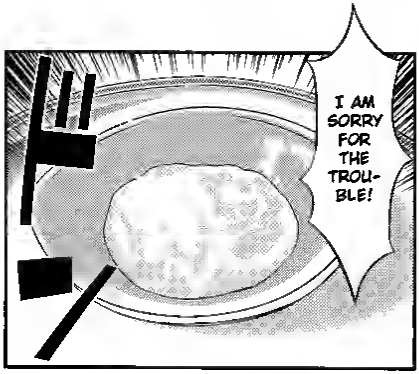

YES?
.....

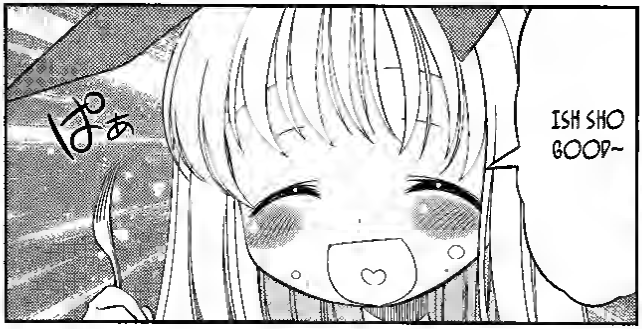
MY APOLO-GIES!
PLEASE WAIT JUST A MINUTE!

I WOULD NEVER DO SOMETHING LIKE FILE A CLAIM AGAINST THE RESTAU-RAUNT BUT ...
UHH ...

I ONLY WANTED TO CLEAR UP THE PROB-LEM WITH-OUT ANY TROUBLE.
YOU HIDE WELL JUST HOW AWFUL YOU REALLY ARE.
KUNI-HIRO-KUN...


SO MUCH TARTAR SAUCE!
YAY, TARTAR!
WHOA

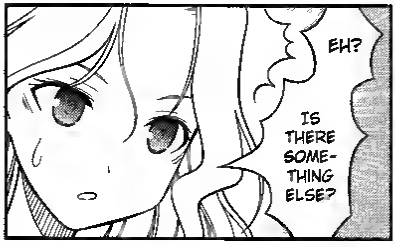

I AM SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE!


ぱぁ
ISH SHO GOOD~

モグ
モグ

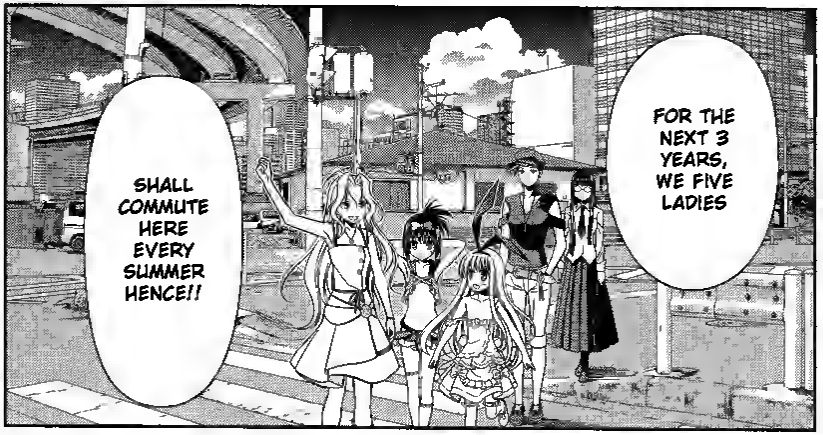
じぉ

HOORAY
チュー〜


EH?
IS THERE SOME-THING ELSE?

I WAS REMEMBERING HOW, LONG AGO, I WASN'T SO LONELY, AND THINGS WERE BUSY BUT FUN.
WHAT A COMPLICATED FEELING THIS IS.
TPD
TPD

ONCE MORE
I WOULD LIKE TO COME TO TOKYO WITH EVERY-ONE AGAIN..
WHAT NON-SENSE YOU UTTER.


FOR THE NEXT 3 YEARS, WE FIVE LADIES
SHALL COMMUTE HERE EVERY SUMMER HENCE!!

咲 Saki 4

writer/artist
小林立

assistant background **inks**
ナカノタイスケ　松尾満　may

color **backgreund** assistant
ヤオキン

special **thanks**
萩原嘉博　月猫　ZOOD

editer
横山元太

ヤングガンガンコミックス

YG COMICS

咲-Saki-

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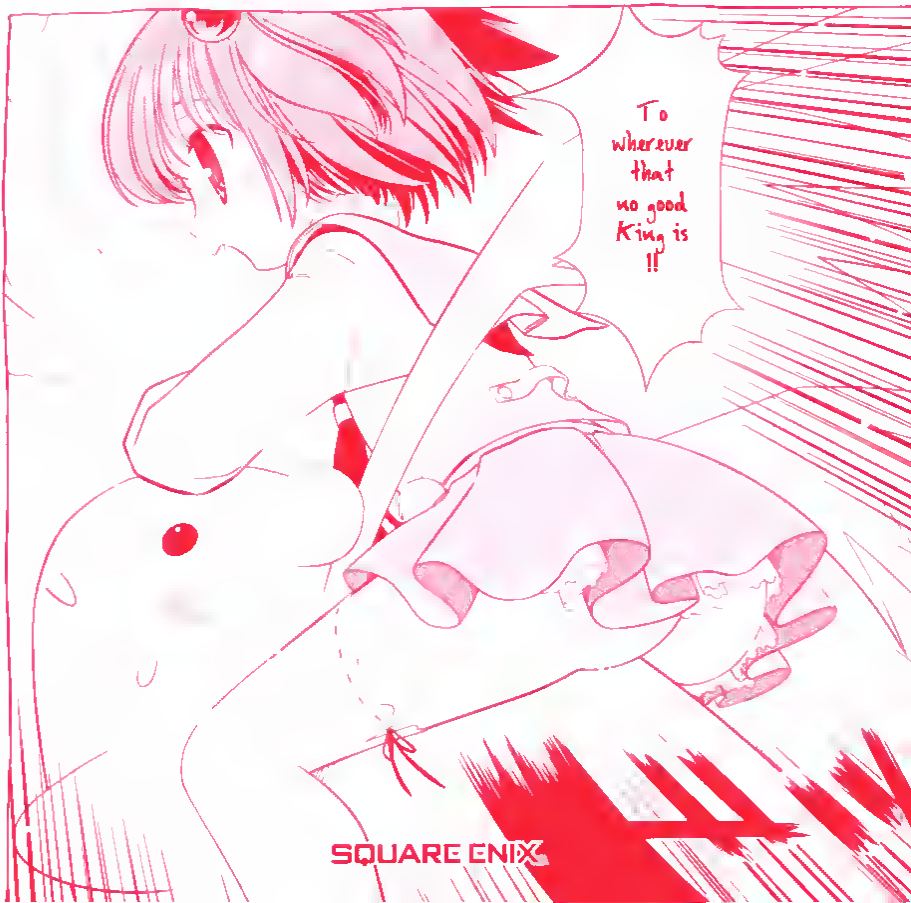
Let's go!
Ung-dang
It isn't good to just decide something is bad when you've only seen one part of it.
To where?


To wherever that no good King is!!

SQUARE ENIX